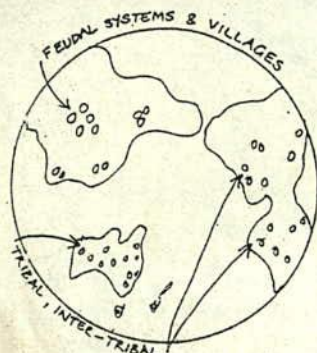


# LET\$TALK

Information Bulletin of the Richmond Valley  
Local Energy Transfer System Nov-Dec '95



hu



UNTIL ... SOMEWHERE IN CANADA SOME SMARTARSE STARTS PUTTING LITTLE CIRCULATING SYSTEMS RIGHT OVER THE TOP OF ALL THESE BIG ARROWS ...

"LETS implies permission, invitation, possibility, preference and some enthusiasm for the future." Michael Linton 1995

## Editorial

I wish all RIVLETS members many happy tradings and much sharing and caring during the silly season. Make this system work for you! Be prepared to put energy into it to get what you want. It functions differently to the instant gratification consumerist society that we are used to ... things take more time. People have varying levels of confidence with and commitment to the system. So talk to members who are happy with the system and find out why it works for them. It's based on co-operation, relationship and sustainability. The structure is working well but it is still being modified and fine tuned.

An issue raised by Rob Mueck in last edition's Letters was that of being charged interest on a negative balance. The idea has merit he added. I welcome additional comments on why you think the idea has merit Rob, however from a LETS perspective it's like Lucifer asking the pearly gate keeper "May I come in Peter?". Charging interest is unsustainable, whereas LETS is attempting to create an exchange medium that works for everyone. In a traditional economy the interest paid ends up in the pockets of those who already have more money than they need! More within the values of lets would be a "parking fee" to the members holding on to the money longer than they need for exchange purposes. The fee would be an additional source of income for the LETS office on top of the transaction fees which currently sustains its operation. What do you think?

See you in the New Year folks, Jamil.



"He says he'll take the glasses if we'll take virtual money."

## LETS TRADING DAY!

Look for the LETS stall at  
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SUNDAY DEC 17TH

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One week before Christmas





# Letters

## *Kaia Seaton's ideas on spending those local\$*

- \* Ask for what you want; join people up who provide services you need.
- \* Put energy into spending, not earning, local\$.
- \* Support businesses in LETS.
- \* Give yourself a wider time frame in which to spend you local\$.
- \* Broaden your perspective to embrace "luxuries" you normally wouldn't nurture yourself with because they cost too much (eg a holiday, help with cleaning or gardening, home catering, healing).
- \* Plunge into abundance, not the scarcity thinking of "they don't have what I want".

*It is your choice whether you use the system or not.*

## *The LETS formula to make it happen.*

If your answer is "Yes" to these statements you definitely need to read this article. If not, read it anyway.

- \* *No one phones me for my services.*
- \* *LETS is not working for me.*
- \* *I can't see any point in staying in LETS.*

Ask yourself, "Why are there so members of LETS happily trading, while with others nothing is happening?" The big difference in these two circumstances is that you have to put energy in before you get anything out. As the Kahnoona's say "Manawa" which means "Where attention goes, energy flows, be focused". By putting your skills in the resource list, then sitting back expecting the phone to ring, believe me, in most cases your in for a big shock - it doesn't happen.

After joining LETS I was very excited when I received my first task within a couple of weeks. Do you know, I didn't get another call for two years. I spent the whole time expecting something to happen after my initial success, without putting energy into it myself. I was wandering whether LETS was worth being a part of when a friend suggested I start stirring the energy pot.

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(W) 019 458707

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At the time I believed I needed to build my units and have quite a few credit before I dare use any. With this new focus I arranged for someone to do something for me; the next day the phone rang. Since then I have never looked back! Actually, 70% of my trading is done with the same person. I always encourage an exchange of resources when I phone or someone phones me.

Now ask yourself these questions.

- \* *What am I in LETS for?*
- \* *What do I expect to gain from LETS?*

Does the answer to these questions affect the results I am achieving from LETS?

*This tip from me  
Doesn't cost a fee  
Let the energy flow  
Then feel yourself go.*

*Happy trading, Teren.*

## *What can I do?*

Frequently people say "LET\$ seems like a good idea and I want to participate but I have not got any skills to offer. Most of us have become used to having jobs rather than lives. We're practical. That is what we've had to do to survive. But what happened to our sense of who we are as individuals - the thing we always dreamed we could earn a living with, the thing we do that delights our friends? These have been relegated at best to hobbies. What we do in our "free" time.

## *Four easy steps to earn "local\$"*

- \* Remember a dream you had about making money doing ..... what was it now?
- \* Write down the skills you have developed that have nothing to do with your job or career. Are they services others might need sometime.
- \* Think of things you do all the time: sewing, cooking, specialties, childcare, gardening or things that others would like to know (such as a language, computer skills or a craft).
- \* Trust yourself! Take a leap. you can't get fired from RIVLETS. Your customers will tell you what they are willing to pay for your goods or services. If one idea doesn't work, change your listing and try another. We treat each other with respect and humour. You always have another chance.





# NOTICEBOARD/CLASSIFIEDS

## GENERAL SKILLS, SERVICES & LABOUR

KY Clothing Renovations, Mending, Patchwork  
Items made to order, Tree Planting, Secretarial,  
Typing (70wpm) Desktop Publishing.  
PHONE 339188 after 6pm.

NI Automatic Transmission Specialist servicing  
most types of automatics. Phone Yarp om 897513

## PROFESSIONAL, BUSINESS, CONSULTANT

BB Michel & Jude Fanton. Consultant on  
Property & Acreage #442 Ph 856624. Also  
available: 'The Seed Saver's Handbook'.

## GUIDANCE, COUNSEL, THERAPY, HEALING

DU LETS ISSUES COUNSELLING: Want to  
know how to earn, spend, exchange or give  
'locals'? I'm your man! Call Jamil on 222776  
L100% by donation.

LI Personal Growth Groups, Family Therapy,  
Gestalt Counselling with Stephen Gunther. PH  
880100

LI Massage, Reiki 1 & 2, Tutoring  
PH: 243647 50% LETS PRI.

LI/NI Rebirthing sessions, Aura Balancing,  
Spiritual Alignments & Past Life Regression.  
Individual sessions at Lismore & Lillian Rock.  
Melony Browell (066) 897 533

## GOODS & GENERAL SUPPLIES

BB Sweet. Refreshing Sugar Cane Juice at local  
markets. L100%

## REQUESTS

BB Gardener, Handy person in Suffolk Park. Call  
Gilbert on 853064.

LI 100% LETS Traders for Support Work, minor  
home maintenance, cooking, car repairs, lawn  
mowing. If you're keen, you're in. (Transport &

expenses in Federal Dollars).  
The Community Services Fund #3.  
222776 Thur or Fri.

LI Trampoline parts (mat & part frame)  
Call Colleen on 218821.

LI One BICYCLE - 10 speed; HIRE or BUY  
Home Brewing Barrells; One GUITAR - Suit  
Beginner. All or part Locals.  
Ring Sandy, 223866.

KY WANTED - Pre 1962 cars & parts.  
Anything - Any Condition.  
Number Plates, any type, any State.  
Phone: Darren 066 337104

LI RIVLETS Office Workers needed!  
Part-time Thurs & Fri afternoon, & for casual  
positions. L10 per hour. Training provided.  
Ring 222776 for details

DU Workers for "Sand/Sawdust/Cement" wall  
construction. No previous experience necessary.  
On the job training provided. Learn this cheap  
easy and attractive building method and earn 12  
locals an hour at the same time. Contact Ray  
886100 or 886307. Day and time will be  
arranged with interested people.

## WORKSHOP

BB Permaculture Water Management Workshop  
with Hector Hill at Nankarri Farm, Goonengerry.  
18th - 19th Nov.  
Bookings: 849239 or 843811

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Local Energy Transfer System  
PO Box 402 Lismore 2480 Ph (066) 222776  
Neighbourhood Centre 13 McKenzie St Lismore  
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Ph 218980  
Many thanks to all contributors!  
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SEND YOUR CLASSIFIEDS TO  
RIVLETS P.O BOX 402 LISMORE 2480

## Skills Directory Update Nov - Dec '95

Acupuncture	448	STUART ROACH	213073	LI
Animal Sitting	792	JUSTIN DELEEUEW	ROSEBANK	DU
Antiques	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Aromatherapy Oils	791	BEN STUBENRAUCH	337032	NI
Art Direction/Promotions	911	STEVEN BLAIR	856217	BB
Art-Fine & Graphic	917	GREENHEAT	858058	MU
Artist/Illustrator	915	HANNAH FRASER	858551	BB
Arts Consultancy	917	GREENHEAT	858058	MU
Baby Sitting	792	KAT WORTH & JUSTIN	ROSEBANK	DU
Baha'i Faith information; free	881	PETER ASHLEY	291347	LI
Brushcutting	133	JIM FICKLING	339188	KY
Building Inspection (Qual.)	877	DAVID RUSSELL	221363	DU
Builder's Labourer	791	BEN STUBENRAUCH	337032	NI
Building-Stone/Mudbrick	416	AL CROCOMBE	220437	LI
Bus Driver -C Class	901	MITCH LOOYEN	857066	BB
Bus Driving	133	JIM FICKLING	339188	KY
Carpentry (LCSD. Builder)	877	DAVID RUSSELL	221363	DU
Catering	789	EVELYN MEYER	882163	DU
Catering-Large or Small	920	TARA LEONIE	882181	DU
Childminding	920	TARA LEONIE	882181	DU
Childminding	884	RHONDA QUARESMINI	284259	LI
Chinese Medicine-Traditiona	448	STUART ROACH	213073	LI
Choreography	792	KAT WORTH	ROSEBANK	DU
Cleaning	920	TARA LEONIE	882181	DU
Clerical	911	STEVEN BLAIR	856217	BB
Clerical,Writer	373	VYVYAN STOTT	018663431	BB
Clothing	905	ANDREA HEINRICHS	847085	BB
Clothing Creations	915	HANNAH FRASER	858551	BB
Clothing-Natural Fibres	138	JILL TREVILLIAN	219081	LI
Communication Skills	877	CHRISTINE RUSSELL	221363	DU
Computer Consultant	13	STEVE COOKE	243291	LI
Computer consultancy	918	TOM HAIN	854054	BB
Cooking/Catering	884	RHONDA QUARESMINI	284259	LI
Costumes	905	ANDREA HEINRICHS	847085	BB
Cultural Planning	917	GREENHEAT	858058	MU
Dance Performance	792	KAT WORTH	ROSEBANK	DU
Dance Teaching	792	KAT WORTH	ROSEBANK	DU
Dance/Movement Therapy	792	KAT WORTH	ROSEBANK	DU
Demolition/Salvaging	911	STEVEN BLAIR	856217	BB
Didgeridoo Playing	912	DARREN HILLER-SMI	858551	BB



Writing	876	SANDY TIFFEN	223866	LI	Massage-Chinese	448	STUART ROACH	213073	LI
Entertainment-Guitar/Vocals	920	JARAH TREE	882181	DU	Meditation	759	SONIA MANUSSEN	897491	NI
Event Design & Co-ordination	917	GREENHEAT	858058	MU	Murals	915	HANNAH FRASER	858551	BB
Fabric Dyeing	759	SONIA MANUSSEN	897491	NI	Murals	912	DARREN HILLER-SMI	858551	BB
Farm Labouring	876	SANDY TIFFEN	223866	LI	Murals/Creative Signs	920	JARAH TREE	882181	DU
Flute Tuition	884	RHONDA QUARESMINI	284259	LI	Net Repair	905	ANDREA HEINRICHS	847085	BB
French language translation	730	ROSEMARY ZILLIG	241107	LI	Painting	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Furniture Design/Build	912	DARREN HILLER-SMI	858551	BB	Permaculture Design/Implement.	416	AL CROCOMBE	220437	LI
Furniture Restoration	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY	Permaculture work	786	TIM DAVIS	291336	LI
Furniture-Handmade Recycled	920	JARAH TREE	882181	DU	Plumbing	877	DAVID RUSSELL	221363	DU
Gardener	900	GUY PETERS	858116	BB	Publicity/Entertainment	912	DARREN HILLER-SMI	858551	BB
Gardening	786	TIM DAVIS	291336	LI	Recording - Studio	919	ANDREW PARKS	843161	BB
Gardening	876	SANDY TIFFEN	223866	LI	Recording Service- 8 Track	919	ANDREW PARKS	843161	BB
Gardening/Pruning	911	STEVEN BLAIR	856217	BB	Recording, Mixing- Live	919	ANDREW PARKS	843161	BB
German language translation	730	TONY ZILLIG	241107	LI	Recycled Building Materials	920	JARAH TREE	882181	DU
German language translation	730	ROSEMARY ZILLIG	241107	LI	Remedial massage	910	KATHY INGRAM	853036	BB
German language tuition	730	TONY ZILLIG	241107	LI	Respite Care	884	RHONDA QUARESMINI	284259	LI
Handy person	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY	Rubbish Removal	133	JIM FICKLING	339188	KY
Handyman	900	GUY PETERS	858116	BB	Secondhand Appliances	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Hatha Yoga	759	SONIA MANUSSEN	897491	NI	Secondhand Books	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Hebrew Language	789	EVELYN MEYER	882163	DU	Secondhand Furniture	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Herbs-Chinese	448	STUART ROACH	213073	LI	Secondhand Kitchenwares	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Home Care (Disabled)	792	JUSTIN DELEEuw	ROSEBANK	DU	Secondhand Tools	540	NICK & EIJA WREN	322066	KY
Horticulture	373	VYVYAN STOTT	018663431	BB	Shiatsu/Acupressure	901	MITCH LOOYEN	857066	BB
House Cleaning	876	SANDY TIFFEN	223866	LI	Singing-Groups & Tuition	916	GURUNAAM SARASWAT	801526	MU
House Help	905	ANDREA HEINRICHS	847085	BB	Social Worker	789	EVELYN MEYER	882163	DU
Instalations Set Design	792	JUSTIN DELEEuw	ROSEBANK	DU	Soft Furnishings	905	ANDREA HEINRICHS	847085	BB
Internet support	918	TOM HAIN	854054	BB	Solar Electrics	759	RAINER GLASKER	897491	NI
Investment Advice	900	GUY PETERS	858116	BB	Special Care	911	STEVEN BLAIR	856217	BB
Jewellery Repairs/Restoration	880	CHRISTINA KHUMARI	841288	MU	Tennis Players - A Grade	877	DAVID & CHRISTINE	221363	DU
Job Seeking Skills	877	CHRISTINE RUSSELL	221363	DU	Tree Planting	416	AL CROCOMBE	220437	LI
Juggling, Clown, Fire, Magic	920	JARAH TREE	882181	DU	Truck for Transport	877	DAVID RUSSELL	221363	DU
Justice of the Peace	730	TONY ZILLIG	241107	LI	Tutoring, school-uni, Feb-Nov	918	JANNINE BARRON	854054	BB
Kinesiology	916	GURUNAAM SARASWAT	801526	MU	Utility (1 ton) and driver	133	JIM FICKLING	339188	KY
Kites-Cloud Cutter	790	HUGH WALLACE	224924	LI	Welding	877	DAVID RUSSELL	221363	DU
Labourer/Handyperson	901	MITCH LOOYEN	857066	BB	Woodworker	900	GUY PETERS	858116	BB
Labouring	373	VYVYAN & PHILIP S	018663431	BB	Word Processing/ Typing	791	BEN STUBENRAUCH	337032	NI
Landscaping	416	AL CROCOMBE	220437	LI	Yoga	792	KAT WORTH	ROSEBANK	DU
Librarian	133	CAROL FICKLING	339188	KY	Yoga Cleansing Techniques	759	SONIA MANUSSEN	897491	NI
Library Skills	759	SONIA MANUSSEN	897491	NI	Yoga Retreats & Seminars	916	GURUNAAM SARASWAT	801526	MU
Logos/Designs	915	HANNAH FRASER	858551	BB	Yoga Therapy Consultations	916	GURUNAAM SARASWAT	801526	MU
Massage	759	RAINER GLASKER	897491	NI					
Massage	910	KATHY INGRAM	853036	BB					
Massage - Remedial	910	KATHY INGRAM	853036	BB					
Massage Therapist	901	MITCH LOOYEN	857066	BB					





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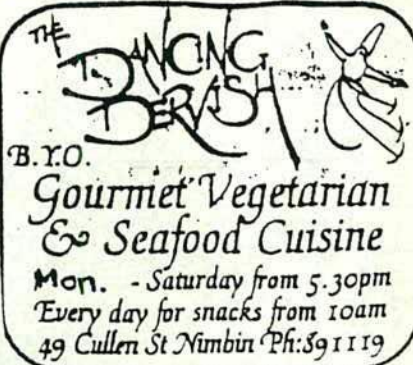
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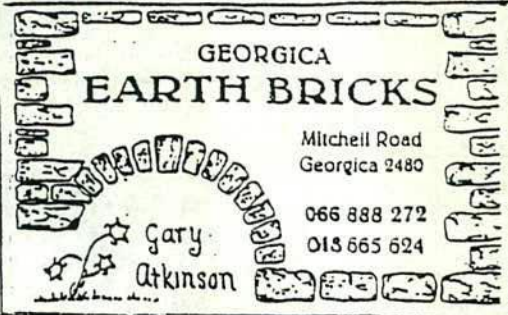
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## Business and LETS: Can we coexist?

There has been much discussion around the LETS world about whether there should be widespread business involvement in LETS systems. Many people blame businesses for the problems we are experiencing now and believe they should be treated like the plague, which has a degree of sense. However the reality is that it is business that employs people and the taxes we all then pay goes to running the government, employing public servants and running programs we as communities want. We may not like it, but right now almost all economic activity is generated by businesses.

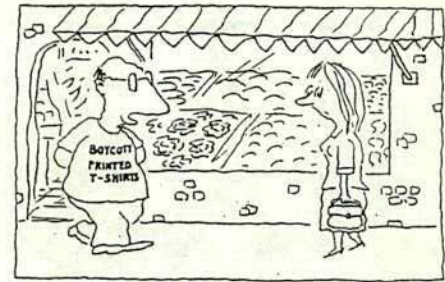
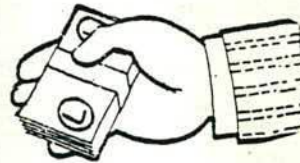
The proposition that businesses should not participate in LETS is interesting. Basically it is saying that if we are dollar poor then we should remain dollar poor - there appears to be some kind of saintliness in poverty. If LETS doesn't allow widespread business participation then we will continue to spend all our dollars on basic needs and our LETS currency on sidelines or labour, and those of us who are poor will remain so. If we encourage business membership then we will be able to spend 10 - 25% of our needs as LETS and have the Federal \$ to spend on other things. We will be financially better off. Not only that but the businesses will have to spend their LETS income. They can spend some on materials and

goods but will spend most on labour. It will mean that people will be employed, even casually or part time, which seems to be a whole lot better than people staying home watching midday TV. These wages will consist of a combination of both LETS and Federal \$, making us even better off.

The use of LETS currency will also enable fledgling or environment based businesses to make their Federal \$ go further, which will enhance the possibility for success, creating more employment. The interesting here is that people will be able to start doing socially constructive work, which isn't affordable at present, instead of destructive work, which is often the case now.

LETS may or may not work without business involvement, however it is unquestionable that we will all have a much greater commitment to making LETS work if there is widespread business involvement, it will be our interest. So assume that a socially reprehensible company joins LETS. Who is obliged to trade with them? No one. If the same company wants to employ people for all Barts say - "no, we don't want or have to trade with you". Business participation does not mean we have to change what we are doing now, it will simply enable us to do it differently and better.

So if you know of a local business which may be interested in joining let the office know. The worst you can lose is time, and the best will save you money. This article was reprinted from Hobart LETS N/L



not with my  
unpaid labour  
you won't!

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## LETS LIFTS

Here's an idea! Those of us in LETS with cars could place a RIVLETS logo on our front windscreen. This would let other LETS members know that we are happy to give them a lift if they are travelling our way. I see this as a neighbourly gesture that helps us as a community to better use and share the resources we have. The LETS office produces LETS logos which should suit this purpose very well. Phone or write to the office with your comment or for Logos.

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### COMMUNITY SERVICES FUND

People can donate or tithe contributions to the Fund to be used later for bulk grants to a number of community organisations and as donations to aged, disabled and infirm people who feel that they have no energy, time or skills to offer to other members of the system, but who are desperately in need of care or nurturing.

The fund is currently supporting a Casino man whose government funding for a carer was discontinued. You can address your contributions to C.S.F. No. 3. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this scheme please inform the RIVLETS office.

### AGENTS CONTACTS

RIVLETS OFFICE (LISMORE)	222776
BYRON ENVIRONMENT CENTRE	855521
NIMBIN N'HOOD CENTRE	891692
KYOGLE (CAROL FICKLING)	339188
BALLINA INFO & REFERRAL	867776

