

A Special Tribute to Alison Bird - Vale Nov 2018



Alison had been involved with BrisLETS over the years through OzLETS, QLETS etc because of Tableland LETS she started in 1991.

Staying in Brisbane for treatment, Alison connected with BrisLETS, then moved down here to Arana Hills while remaining a member of Tableland LETS then became a BrisLETS member. Alison whole heartedly committed to what ever she was doing.



Alison has been instrumental to BrisLETS in so many ways to so many people on so many levels - starting out with creating a Card Making business, her blog, recycling and requesting and getting help during her journey to move here, making simple lists on scraps of paper but following up with people about details during chemo, attending the local, state and national events to share the concepts of LETS, being on the committee to move BrisLETS forward, able to relate to people from all walks of life.



Alison had the vision to take ideas into reality, and take people with her. Using all means from paper to technology Alison was integral to trouble shooting CES changes, writing stories, facebook reminders etc.



Alison's Tribute continues



Time	Stage	Café area	Healing lounge	Outside
10:00 AM	MC Neil Davidson Welcome 10-10.10 AM			Karel Boele's Electric car on display whole day
	TALK Alison Bird What is LETS? 10.10-10.30 am	WORKSHOP Jane Milburn Sewing/up cycling 10.10-12		PERFORMER Jeff Turpin Circus spectacular 10.10-11 am
11	WORKSHOP Kate Fraser Yoga 11-12		REIKI Deb Fazio Bookings required 11-3	DEMONSTRATION Michael Cahill Solar cooking 11-12
12:00 PM		DEMONSTRATION Hugh Dickson Green smoothies 12.30-1	MASSAGE Rob Vidovic Bookings required 11-3	DEMONSTRATION Kath Evans Whip cracking 12-12.30
1	WORKSHOP Kiri Waiata Green Singing 1-2	WORKSHOP Neil Davidson Chai making for kids 1-3		WORKSHOP Madonna Cuskelly Hula hoops 1-1.30
2	TALK Tom Miller The Ethereum Foundation			
3	WORKSHOP Elliot Orr Drumming 3-4	All this PLUS stalls outside including art/craft, bric a brac, clothes swap, chickens/ducklings, kids music space and games, honey etc. NB: Stalls need to be set up by 9.45		
	GROUP TALK			



30th Anniversary



BrisLETS
1988-2018

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LITTONVILLE PATENT
 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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The board of Trustees

The first 80 members held monthly meetings and published the newsletter and resource register with a diverse range of offerings including Pritikin cooking, landscaping design, safe sex workshops, past life therapy, nursing services, dental, flotation tanks, rebirthing, building labourer, montessori pre-school care etc.

Alissa and Partner moved to Cairns and Member #0027 Wayne Palmer was elected inaugural President of the 12 Board of Trustees we think Feb 1988. His wife Valerie was treasurer. Russell Preston took on the membership officer role and remembers they created the policy and procedures.

Between 1988-94 Russell was away with work so took on the Ombudsman Role to resolve disputes.
Russell also attended the first formation meeting of OzLETS at Maleny convened by Ann Jupp (Jill's sister).

BrisLETS 1989

LETS Origins

- The LETS barter system has its origins in the social movement of the 1960s and 1970s in Vancouver. In a period of economic instability and influenced by the hippie movement, Michael Linton, together with David Weston, developed a first barter system in 1976 that they dubbed 'Community Exchange'. This precursor of the LETS system was based on the bartering of time and it met with little success initially. It was not until the decline in economic activity at the beginning of the 1980s that the ideas of Michael Linton gained support. The high level of unemployment and financial uncertainty prompted Michael Linton to set up a first LETS group in 1983. He wanted to give the jobless population a way of supporting itself. The system made use of the 'Green Dollar', a new local currency that was made equivalent in value to the Canadian dollar instead of time. This first pilot project only existed for a few years due to a lack of transparency and trust and an excessive centralisation. But it was not long before the LETS model was picked up once again. The imposition of fish quotas caused the Canadian maritime areas to suffer high unemployment figures but this time people did indeed succeed in withstanding the crisis by means of LETS groups. Moreover, the benefits in this respect are seen not only in economic terms but also in social terms.
- The success story of LETS systems in the Canadian maritime regions was an example that also found imitators abroad. To begin with, the LETS model spread through the English-speaking world, then also in other industrialised countries. Four-fifths of the total number of LETS groups are located in Argentina, a statistic that is largely attributable to the currency crisis of 2001. It should also be pointed out that LETS systems hardly occur at all in Central America, Eastern Europe, Africa or Asia, with the exception of Japan.

BrisLETS 1990



Australia embraced LETS

Jill's travels saw LETS spring up in rural Victoria and Western Australia. Subsequently, the word spread to South Australia and Tasmania then much later the Northern Territory and North Queensland became hooked with Alison Bird starting Tablelands LETS in 1991. The network began to spread. Jill's friends assisted in growing LETS Japan and Switzerland. Michael Linton and Paul Felix (Deloraine LETS in Tasmania) began and helped existing LETS in a big way in the United Kingdom. They even involved local councils!

- They held Annual Fairs

BrisLETS 1991

OzLETS?

- Wayne was still the president, Treasurer Leona
- In June the Annual Fair was held Cnr Kennedy & Rockbourne Tce at Paddington.
- Oct saw the first National Conference at Yarrihappini, mid way between Coffs Harbour and Kempsey NSW with 70 participants from 130 groups in Oz. A WA State Government grant of \$50,000 through Skillshare was given to expand 6 LETS there. NZ had 50 groups, with Auckland having 2000 members including professional traders, a food and clothing shop. A National magazine was edited by Penny Stockley from Armadale. Michael Linton assured attendees that Australia was at the leading edge of world development.
- The newsletter said there was renewed commitment to sparkling conversation, informed discussions on serious issues, demonstrations, entertainment, barter and food.
- Social Bushwalk at Kenmans Reserves was advertised.
- Questionnaire on the renewal form, formed basis for a list of interests/activities members wanted to do.
- Transaction book keeper was expected to spend 15hrs/mth, and needed computer and printer and claimed 10 units/h for approved business.

BrisLETS 1992

1993-1997

- BrisLETS was very active with stalls eg at the New Farm Festival, Northey St Green Fair, BOGI Fair, an open house, interest from the Kenmore High School, an article in Grass Roots Magazine.
- AGM was held at the New Farm Neighbourhood Centre.
- They were using the LETS assist program to track the debits and credits.
- A 500 debit limit was implemented and BrisLETS grappled with inter-letting after Beaches LETS imposed a 2000 Dr limit.
- BrisLETS used dispute resolution counselling to resolve the interpersonal issues.
- Membership ranged from Mt Nebo to Eden's Landing to near Caboolture. TrogLETS was on the Granite Belt and Coochiemudlo Island had a group.
- BrisLETS participated in QLETS and OZLETS, part of LETS Australia.

BrisLETS 1993

Computer



- Denis Fountain's stepson was doing the transactions in a spreadsheet then Alex Mitrow started developing a program to record transactions.

Insurance affects groups

- **BrisLETS became Incorporated**

10 years on

- Alex was transaction secretary but did not attend committee meetings.
- Logan LETS was using the LETS Assist accounting system for the transactions.
- In 1998 BrisLETS celebrated 10 years with a Market day at Captain Burke Park (under the Story Bridge – contacts were Katy & Jo with a notice in Quest papers – had trading goods, sausage sizzle, and fresh produce. It was very well attended especially by children.

BrisLETS 1998

Domain name

- Alex bought the Lets.org.au domain name - it was the go to site to find other LETS Australia wide, and the James Taris journey and other links.
- Jasmaine, Chair of Hervey Bay LETS, organised the LETS chat room on Monday nights.

Alex Mitrow # 825 at the Lets stall at the 3rd Annual Permaculture Show held at the Brookfield Showgrounds in 2000 where Bill Mollison spoke - displaying some of Kev's goods, stools and bird house. Members got in for 100% units + 10% \$.



- Article from Michelle #1206 in 2000 newsletter – Benarrawa (a community member of LETS #882, combining it's resources with LETS and the tool co-op resulted in people getting to know each other, acquiring clothes, books, plants, food, kids stuff, recycled timber and a brick barbeque shifted to it's new home. The management committee were amazed that all this happened and no money was exchanged.
- Sept we received a grant from the Community Development Fund of \$5365 which was spent on a laptop, printer, CD writer, scanner and marquee.