

BLCE NewsLETS December 2019

www.brislets.com



NewsLETS is BrisLETS' monthly roundup of events, achievements and plans
The main stories are in the Newsfeed on the website: <https://brislets.com/news/>

Introducing our new Website Administrator - Holger

I have been a member of BrisLETS since about 2009, when I first moved to Brisbane, and came across BrisLETS by chance, as an example of an operating alternative currency, which I find very interesting conceptually.

I generally offer various services, mainly to do with technology and how to use it, such as computer and android phone refurbishments, teaching all kinds of computer programs to achieve various outcomes, and data processing skills and analytics.

I recently took over the webadmin role for the BrisLETS website and hope to be able to leverage my technical skills to serve and improve the BrisLETS community and purpose of enabling a local community to grow stronger and more resilient.

Highlights of BrisLETS are rather the general interaction of people, i.e. the feeling created of being part of a smaller but not exclusive social group that has roots in the place where I live, than a particular event/trade.

Update on Brislets.com

Members have been having conversations about the role of BrisLETS, regarding potential members and current members' needs, including suggestions of blogs giving simple questions and answers so that is wonderful to hear. Many of the widgets and plugins need updating as does Wordpress itself, and there is a lack of space, so with the site host, Holger is still mapping the site, doing a complete backup, updating widgets & plugs etc before updating Wordpress, restoring the links, updating content etc.

So now is your chance to say what you think the site needs to be more user friendly. Email president@brislets.com.

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Next Trading Day

Sun 15th Dec 2019

Trading 12-4pm

Christmas Party

Deadlines

NewsLETS stories, notices, advertising and reports:

Sun 22nd December 2019

for publication on

Sun 8th December 2019

January Sun 19th 2020

From 12-4pm

Details to be advised.

CES access by Mobile

The CES mobile site has been updated

<https://mobi.communityexchange.net.au>

<https://m.communityexchange.net.au>

Draft BrisLETS Vision Statement

We need the the Vision Statement for the front page of the BrisLeTS Website.

We have used various methods to bring out members' values, feelings etc to develop a Vision Statement - please feedback on this current draft.

"BrisLETS, using the Australian Community Exchange Server, seeks to facilitate members' ability to increase their quality of life and financial circumstances, through trading, using their life experience, goods and services, to help others meet their needs, and thus creating a safe, inclusive, diverse community of individuals, businesses and groups, with similar values and beliefs, in all seasons of life and abilities, utilising units as alternative currency to dollars."



We have no new members this month.



Trading Figures
July - Nov 2019

July 75 trades generated 566432.38 units
Aug 55 trades generated 569233.56 units
Sept 82 trades generated 573660.51 units
Oct 82 trades generated 577637.51 units
Nov 55 trades generated 580059.31 units.

Levy generated for Admin over 5 months was 1225.48 units.

December Trading Day Sun 15th



Please bring festive food to share, or to sell, musical items or games or other activities to create a festive atmosphere so we can socialise and have fun!



What games can you bring?

- Everyone is so busy this time of year and plans change. The people wanting the Secret Santa have other commitments, so no organised Secret Santa this year.
- No workshop as Michael isn't going to do the Tai Chi workshop anymore, but will do foot massages at selected events etc.

So we will just say that trading will be from 12 noon to 4pm and see who turns up on the day, and according to who has brought what, we will make plans then.

Sarah is at another market so won't have her clothes there.

Suzanne will be there - please contact her to see what she will be offering.

Liz Downey is offering a Pre-Xmas Trading Day Special 20% off any piece of Liz Downey's handmade porcelain (and often real gold) tableware. See Suzanne's stall for the current range.



Tips and Hints for Trading

People choose to be in a group with other people who they feel can be trusted, have similar interests, values and beliefs, have your back, can help you survive.

They trust you will do what you say on time, when and how you say you will do it.

So with that in mind, how can you help others get what they need, when they need it?

A great link explaining this is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4VdO7LuoBzM>

To make your wants stand out, updating them monthly will give confidence to the members wanting to find things they can do to earn units! If they are 6 mths out of date, members don't know if services are still needed. Updating your wants also brings them up again on the list sent out.

Same with the offers - just going in and checking your offers each month, shifts them up on the list sent out, and people viewing the list know you are active.



Start planning jobs for next year, now! You need time to get organised getting the materials, boxes or whatever. The members you want to help you, also need time to get organised. Many members have paid work, kids, families and other commitments so can't just drop everything at a moment's notice to do a job, thus disappointing everyone.

By creating relationships with other members by going to trading days, meeting to drop off and pick up items or experiencing a service, you get to know others' circumstances, and may go the extra mile to help them in emergencies because of similar interests, values and beliefs.

Want to reach members not on BrisLETS Trading or Members Forum Facebook page, or don't regularly go into the CES to look at offers and wants?

Use the newsletter by giving the editor ideas to work with, advertise etc.

Want to know more about the person mentioned here? View their profiles in the CES and see what else they offer or want. This is just an idea to get more members to trading days and starting to think about what they might be interested in that is out of the box, to try and see what interest from others, it attracts. Want ideas? - google how to youtube videos, pintrist etc.

Christmas Gift Ideas - Arts & Crafts

Ishka #0976 - Affirmation cards, oracle cards, junk journals

Lynnette #1402 - Decluttering - has paintings and knickknacks

George - plants, herbs,

Suzanne #0013 - soaps, cards,

Services

Micheal #0777- foot massages at selected events

Sally#0777 - haircuts, shoulder and head massage at selected events.



Sally & Michael at the November Trading Day.

Shonika #1309- Gift vouchers for massages

Wanted - Deb#0942 wants to know how to plait palm fronds that are going to waste.



Merry Christmas everyone and wishing you a Happy, Caring and Prosperous 2020!

Ideas for 2020

Members have been putting forward ideas for activities they are interested in pursuing, which is what management would love to see more of, and will support them in anyway we can, as it is your community.

Sarah - having BrisLETS stalls at other markets etc Bald Hills, and some other members living up that way are interested. If you are interested please make contact.

Ishka #0976- teaching classes outside of trading days - how to create toilet paper roll books, with coptic bonding, and various layered book techniques.

Nicholas - SwapU is a member of BrisLETS and there is a wonderful article on the SwapU app in Our Logan Volume 85, Dec 2019. It's been scanned and uploaded to files in BrisLETS Trading FB page.

Rosie - is going to take the Listening Circle at trading days in 2020, supported by Anne.

Management Support

We still need people to fill essential non management roles, to develop and meet changing needs because of the membership dynamics, changes in mainstream technology, groups that members are a part of, areas members live in, economic changes etc.

BrisLETS needs people to write content for the website, newsletter stories, offer safe space for members to drop off and pick up trades, open and close the trading days, organise regular events like the Bogi Fair, market stalls etc.

Committee Contacts

Jessie - president@brislets.com

Sally - secretary@brislets.com

Kelly - treasurer@brislets.com

Ishka - membership@brislets.com

Holger - webadmin@brislets.com

Acting newsletter editor - **Jessie**

Management Update

2019 has been a big learning curve for all of us. As members polarised over views for BrisLETS future, there was a changing of management committee, and a Vision Statement process to focus members back on the reasons for joining in the first place started - the shared values and beliefs.

We lost the very valuable tech skills of the previous committee, and through needing to update various components and programs of the website, now is the time to map and relook at the purpose of the website and how best to attract potential members, answer their questions, and make it more useful for current members.

Using Slack, we are also adding in Trello to create checklists for the different roles, calendar of events etc so that members can step in and out of roles according to circumstances, so all information, deadlines, items and actions needed are there, and we can easily keep track of what needs to be done, has been done etc.

The organisations' name was changed, but the proposed changes to the constitution, terms and conditions have been delayed until the Vision Statement has been completed. Bank and Paypal access was transferred.

Traders at the Trading Day have been paying the hall hire but all members are benefiting from the cupboard storage of equipment, books etc as well as the traders using the hall on the day.

We still haven't found an alternative name to Stipend (Honarium). We have redesigned the Stipend layout to be more transparent, and are in the process of paying stipends owed.

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