

# **CES: North London Local Exchange and Trading Scheme Update: 14 March 2015: This Update is a notice from North London Local Exchange and Trading Scheme Administration**

Dear Member: Below are extracts from the last/this year's newsletters (with some passages highlighted). You may benefit from reviewing this information prior to the AGM to be up to speed with current issues.

## **Texts from the late Summer 2014 Newsletter:**

The old faces - who is who in the current "committee" (MG)

Elisabeth - Leader, Luciah - Treasurer, - Membership affairs, Mary H - MG member

Helen B - Our rep to the landlord, The 6th member or the core MG - vacant, awaiting a co-optee,

Additional members - vacant, awaiting for co-optees

Who is who WHERE AND WHEN in the specific jobs - "officers"

- Helen B - temp office co-ordinator (as and when)
- Henu - temp office worker(Wednesdays 15.00-17.00 plus as and when)
- Henu- Welcome Lead (Welcome sessions at the ARC on every 1st Wednesdays in the month 17.00h - 20.00h 1. existing members informal meet-up and trading 2. new enquirers from 18.00h)
- Luciah - treasurer (as and when)
- Irene - webmaster (remote working, as and when required by the MG)

New faces wanted

- IN THE MG 2013-2014 - TO BE CO-OPTED BY THE EXISTING MG - APPLICANTS PLEASE WRITE / EMAIL C/O THE OFFICE FAO THE MG
- IN THE OFFICE TEAM
- IN THE 'WELCOME' TEAM
- IN THE SPECIALISTS POOL to take lead in tasks requiring specific skills
- TO BECOME NEIGHBOURHOOD 'BUDDIES' to bridge the digital divide
- IN THE NEW MG (see AGM)

Working for your LET scheme is a multiway skills share opportunity, not a job for life. We aim for the crowd that works for the scheme to have mixture of variety skills and skill levels, so learning opportunities can be created ; no one is too under-qualified to learn or over-qualified to teach.

AGM

The last Annual General Meeting was in July 2013. This year's date is yet to be announced. The primary purpose of an AGM is for all the members to have a chance in having a say who is in the Management Group - the body that has decision making powers in between the General Meetings. The AGM can make other decisions as well such a rule changes, but these can also be handled in a specially called meeting (Extra-ordinary General Meeting, EGM), for which there are no set schedules.

Please, carry on sending in you nominations (they are not thrown way simply because there is a delay!) for candidates for the MG 2014-2015 to the Office by post or email. Aspirant candidates, please send you manifestos, so we can publish them to your electorate.

---

## **FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2014 NEWSFLASH**

Newsflash

The office phone is now re-connected - no broadband as yet.

WELCOME session Wednesday 1 October (and every 1st Wednesday of a calendar month) - existing members from 5pm for informal gathering - please stay for a while to meet the newbies, new enquirers from 6pm

### **News form the Management Group**

1. a The MG has confirmed its decision to postpone the AGM (Annual General Meeting) indefinitely (i.e. no date) in favour of organising a more informal gathering first.
1. b Thus anyone able to contribute in ideas, information and practical work in preparing and working at a fundraiser/social is invited to come forward and contact the MG.
1. c Any member wishing to challenge the MG's decision and effect calling of a General Meeting is entitled to do as per the Constitution (9.3) by gathering a petition of minimum 7 (seven) members. N.B. this was changed in 2010 from the previous requirement of only 4 (four) member - apologies for any previous misinformation relying on outdated records.
2. a Though 'most' (as per Constitution 8.4) MG meetings are open to all members, the MG is continuing the current pause in open meetings until further notice (until current practicalities are sorted and we have time for more 'blue skies' debates) Meetings are for MG only plus by invitation only for members needed for particular business. This does NOT mean that members should not send in their ideas for MG's attention and possible action; the requirement of the Constitution (7.1.d) of the MG taking note of members' opinions continues to apply.
2. b Vacancies still exist for co-optees to the MG. Anyone wishing to serve as a MG member until the next election, please apply (free style) to the MG either by email or by letter. Co-opteeship has no bearing to the next election (you may stand down or stand at election) or on taking on any particular officer post (MG members may but need not do particular jobs long/short term).

### **News from the Office**

Because of the 'office gap' of last winter and the summer, collecting and recording subs (membership fees) has not been up to date\*. This has contributed to a.o. the current acute financial crisis that we must now tackle without delay; anyone yet to pay their subs for the financial year 2014-15 is asked to do so ASAP. (Any donations of course also joyfully accepted!)

Of course the 'Office versus.No-Office' question is an ongoing debate among most LETS networks, including ours, and members are asked to think about this and contribute their views and ideas.

\* If you have received a demand for subs though you already paid for this year, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE WITHOUT DELAY TO AVOID YOUR MEMBERSHIP BEING TERMINATED.+ STILL AWAITING FOR A "HANDYMAN" - ANY VOLUNTEERS? (usual 'working for NLETS' conditions apply)

---

## FROM THE OCTOBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

NEWS OF THE DEMISE OF NORTH LONDON LETS HAVE BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED....-we - that is YOU - are still here. Only YOU - the members - could ever decide in YOUR general meeting to wind up LETS. Can you recall having made such decision? - Well, no-one can. So LET'S leave such gossip and whispers, that some of us have heard, to find their own value and LET us members concentrate in trading for our mutual benefit and also spreading the benefits of LETS to new members.

In the London of today we need LETS more than ever - money goes easy but does not come so; nowadays anyone not in 'good' jobs or otherwise rich is in trouble. We have examples even within our own LET scheme of instances when the essential services that people with disabilities need but social services does not provide due to the government cuts, have been and are provided only through LETS. LETS is the machinery that actually works like what the politicians like to call "big society" - not in the airy fairy way of their speeches but – in genuinely functioning complementary economy system of fair give and take.

---

### Stuff • pledges • pledges • services

---

Remember the extra London opportunity: we can trade with Waltham Forest LETS members on the CES system (conversion rate: 1 pledge = 1 beam)

LET'S not forget our arrangement with **the Phone Co-op** - anyone considering keeping/ installing landline and/or broadband in their humble home or micro-business will do well to check out the Co-op's competitive low-use packages and if making decision in their favour, cite NLLETS to secure us sponsorship.

A very BIG THANK YOU FOR ALL THE MEMBERS WHO WORKED FOR THE EXCELLENT AND INVALUABLE **WORKERS' BEER COMPANY** (and earned pledges for themselves) AT THE MUSIC FESTIVALS - THIS INCOME FROM THE WBC WILL ENABLE US TO COVER THE ESSENTIAL £pound; STERLING RUNNING COSTS FOR THE TIME BEING. THIS WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT THE MEMBERS' HARD WORK!

However, for long term future, we – all members - must give serious thought to all possible different options of running the 'office' function and the £pound; cost of various options. How much we want to spend in sterling? Is the current office arrangement the one YOU want? If it indeed is, how should we make best use of the facility?

---

## FROM THE DECEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

### Winterval is cancelled ? cannot afford it?

LETS to the rescue as money costs too much...our talented members have many wonderful gift ideas - available for pledges - give your fellow member a ring and see what you can find...

NEWS OF THE DEMISE OF NORTH LONDON LETS HAVE BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED....we - that is YOU - are still here. Only YOU - the members - could ever decide in YOUR General Meeting to wind up NLLETS. Can you recall having made such decision? -Well, no-one can .... So LET'S leave such gossip and whispers... BUT it is time to plug in your thinking machine, don your thoughts cosy and LET'S brainstorm this dilemma of NLLETS (to office or not to office?) and come a little closer to solution! Our veteran office bod, the incomparable Helen B. re-ignited the debate (that has been mulling away most of 2014) in the last newsletter giving her views on the matter. Now what we need is many more people (YOU!) to give YOUR views and start trashing this out - final decision hopefully to be arrived at the General Meeting. The dilemma that you must decide upon is as follows:

1. IF we had the money to spend as we wish, about half of the expenditure would go on rent (a. £pound;170 per month) - similar monthly amount then would be needed for all other expenditure - bills and for the real work, chiefly to discharge our commitment (in shape of printing costs, postage, telephone calls, etc) to the members who do not use computers.
2. In reality we do not have the money - at the moment we owe money to individuals who can no longer carry on financing NLLETS out of their own (wageless) pockets.
3. We can expect the last summer's WBC money to cover some debts incurred hitherto, but there will not be anything left for the year 2015. This means that - if we do not make a decision - the decision is taken out of our hands by the landlord. SO A RADICAL and INNOVATIVE SOLUTION IS REQUIRED. Earlier the MG had made a decision to postpone the General Meeting till after 6 December at least - so now it's time start thinking of a new date. Don't despair spread the light - spread the love

Get rocket fired start for you preparations for 2015 ! Log on CES - have look what others are offering and wanting - get ready for the New Year de-clutter by OFFERING you unwanted goods - they might be earning pledges rather than occupying your space. New Year - new step forward in your life - NLLETS has advisors, coaches, counsellors and allied trade to help to get you body, mind and spirit in better shape! If you cannot see what you want, put in a Want - you never know...

---

**To stop receiving these updates log in here and check “Stop Updates”**  
**North London Local Exchange and Trading Scheme Administration**  
**Email: [info@nllets.co.uk](mailto:info@nllets.co.uk) • Web: [www.nllets.co.uk](http://www.nllets.co.uk)**  
**This web service is provided by the Community Exchange System (CES)**