



Maleny LETS News

The UpFront Club. 31 Maple St, Maleny (PO Box 400, Maleny 4552)

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Editor: Gay Liddington ~ Email: visionpower@aapt.net.au

February 2010

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LETS Mourns and Celebrates the Life of JILL JORDAN

by Ann Jupp



Jill Jordan, founder, mentor, friend, peacefully took flight on the 8th January after admirably facing the challenges of cancer. She was farewelled and honoured by the Maleny and Bowen communities in ceremonies that expressed great love for an extraordinary human being.

Founder of LETS in Australia, Jill initially heard about the exchange system from a friend, Lea Harrison, who was participating in a Permaculture Design course in the United States. Jill and colleague Ian Smith travelled to Canada to see LETS in action and meet Michael Linton its creator. They brought back the original 'Landsman System' disks and LETS was born in Maleny in November 1987. Other LETS systems soon followed as Jill sung its praises when visiting Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast. Richmond Valley LETS based in Lismore, but serving Nimbin and Mullumbimby, materialised with a ripple effect drawing in Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

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! At its peak there were more than three hundred LETS systems in Australia. Some have grown, some folded, some amalgamated, and new groups have unfolded. Currently, there are approximately two hundred systems operating nationally.

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!

Jill Jordan was a Trustee and Advisor to Maleny LETS from its inception until she moved to Bowen two and a half years ago. It's a wonder she didn't start a trading system in Bowen but swimming, singing, sailing, and "on the ground" landcare took priority with Jill applying for grants to support local projects.

Maleny locals will fondly remember how Jill was always up for a "stick party". Bamboo lengths were cut and sharpened for the Corn Stall which was a LETS annual fund-raiser at the Folk Festival. She also dressed the part and partied well at our LETS Decadent/Recycled Balls.

Jill will be sadly missed, fondly remembered, and her legacy will live on in the many Maleny Cooperatives and projects planned in her honour.



*'A brief candle; both ends burning
An endless mile; a bus wheel turning
A friend to share the lonesome times
A handshake and a sip of wine
So say it loud and let it ring
We are all a part of everything
The future, present and the past
Fly on proud bird, you're free at last.
~Chares Daniels~*

MEMBERS' PAGE

Please contribute to your newsletter!

I invite letters/feedback to the editor, a favourite recipe, a poem/story/anecdote or special quote. Have your say - this is your space.

I remember when... A tribute to Jill Jordan

I will always remember when attending Maleny Spring Workshops in about 1991, Jill Jordan the facilitator, asked me as a participant in the circle if there was something I would like to contribute. Even if there was, I wasn't brave enough to speak in a large group but the fact that someone considered me worthy of asking in the first place has had an influence on my life and still does today. Jill helped me to be aware of the importance of acknowledgement of people and how a single look or comment given with compassion can have lasting positive effects. It was because of this not so small incident that my interest was sparked to find out about LETS.

Thank you Jill, for the little things that mean so much.

(Name supplied)



I remember when I was new to Maleny and volunteered as a dishy/waitperson at the Upfront Club. Jill informed me about the ways of the cooperative and trained me in my role at the Club. I was acknowledged and valued for my contribution and soon felt part of a vibrant community including LETS.

Later that year with Jill's encouragement, I became a Director of the Upfront Club. I remember that in a meeting where Jill was chairperson, I enthusiastically offered an idea to which Jill replied, 'That is a wonderful suggestion. Now tell us how you would like to implement this and what support you need.' I was taken aback. I was only offering an idea! The lesson for me was that if you open your mouth with a suggestion be prepared to follow it though and don't expect others to do all the work!

Thank you Jill, for your care, compassion and wisdom.

Gay Liddington



THANK YOU MALENY LETS

Thank you to everyone in Maleny LETS whom I was privileged to meet and/or trade with or learn from in my short time as a LETS member and an office helper. Probably, without knowing it you have also helped me through an extraordinary year of continual unrelenting challenge. Without LETS, its people, the office, the trades; I would not have made it through 2009.

Thanks especially to everyone who contributed to the LETS Christmas raffle in 2008. Winning this was such an amazing event for me and I will always treasure the basket and generous gifts that overflowed from it. Thank you to Ludmilla for your goodness, your understanding and wisdom. And thank you Angela Vivian for your amazing gifts of spirit and kinesiology expertise. Carmel and Ann, I am so grateful for your patience and tolerance.

I have now moved to Hervey Bay and who knows maybe now it is time for a new and strong LETS System to emerge up here?

Blessings Kaelana

*I am with you...
on the breath of the wind
in the rustling of the trees
during a storm
in each flower that blooms
I am with you.*

*I am here...
for I ride on the crest of the waves
stand on the highest mountain
fly with the eagle
shelter under the smallest leaf
I am here.*

*I am in this moment...
for minutes, hours, days,
are but fleeting things
And what we've shared
is wrapped in eternity...
The laughter, the hopes,
the tears,
These live on
for they are part of you
part of me
part of us.*

~ Gay Liddington

*I am here...
for I ride on the crest of the waves
stand on the highest mountain
fly with the eagle
shelter under the smallest leaf
I am here.*

*I am with you...
on the breath of the wind
in the rustling of the trees
during a storm
in each flower that blooms
I am with you.*



FROM THE OFFICE with Ann Jupp

Hi and a very Happy New Year (Chinese or otherwise) to you all from the LETS team. Hope 2010 is full of joy and abundance for all.

OBITUARIES: Jill Jordan, founder of LETS in Maleny and Australia, lost her battle with cancer on 8th Jan and was royally farewelled by both the Bowen and Maleny communities (story front page). Late last year we lost Yukari Desjardins who was a very active member of Maleny and Sunshine Coast LETS. She would regularly bring groups of Japanese students for "Co-op Tours" including LETS and translated for Jill during her lecture trips to Japan, though Jill was actually learning Japanese from Yukari as well. She died suddenly from a heart condition doing what she loved – a drumming workshop in Japan. We also remember Betty Ringer who passed away recently also from cancer. Betty was an active member who loved the LETS Markets and online CES. She was "Mom" to Sammy, one of our very staunch member/supporters. Our thoughts are with their families.

BUNYA MEALS AT THE UPFRONT CLUB: The Upfront Club offer a "Bunya Special" meal on Monday evenings – muso's blackboard night. There were a few "hiccups" in the beginning but it's going well now. The bunyas are being raised to pay casual packers, gardener and other LETS helpers at the Maple Street Co-op and Upfront Club. We must point out that this meal offer is for LETS MEMBERS ONLY – you can't "shout" non-members a meal. This might encourage people to join or renew their memberships.

FEES: At our November meeting it was decided that seeing we no longer pay rent for office space we can go back to \$15 for a new membership and \$10 + B10 for a renewal. We aren't in it for the money, after all! This will take effect from June 2010 for people paying 2010-2011 renewals.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Our lovely Gay Liddington has been publishing Maleny LETS Newsletter for nine years this September. She does a great (and professional) job but needs more feedback, articles from members, stories of unusual trades, etc., from you out there in LETS land. You can email her – address is on this issue – or drop contributions in to us at the "office" in the Upfront Club any Tuesday or Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. A HUGE THANK YOU TO GAY!!

MARKETS: We had a Market at Ludmila's house on 28th November last year. At our February meeting it was decided to put it out to members to see if there is really any energy out there for the markets to continue. We need someone to take on the job of Market Coordinator - someone who can put in a little time and enthusiasm into making them a monthly event. It's not a big job but staff feel that they are unable to do the admin and run Markets as well. Sunshine Coast LETS Markets are very successful because they have a person who is not on their Committee who is committed to running the Markets. Email us if you think you can help – general feedback about markets is also welcome.

SUNSHINE COAST LETS MARKET: These are held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at Nambour Community Centre, Shearer St (off Howard St) from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. They have lots of goodies for sale, food to eat or take away, services like haircuts, etc. We were wondering if there were any members out there who would be interested in going on an expedition to the next one, maybe get the bus (Hinterland Connect) or car pool and do lunch afterwards. **Wednesday, 24th March will be the date.** Contact us if you're interested.

FOLK FESTIVAL: The Bunya voucher system seems to be running smoothly. Quite a few were purchased and traded. Unused vouchers need to be redeemed with us very soon

JAPANESE FILM: We had yet more visitors from Japan in January. A film crew were shooting a TV documentary about LETS and the environment. They interviewed staff at the Maple St Coop, Club Barung Landcare and LETS, showing how our Co-ops are making a green difference.

NATIONAL LETS CONFERENCE: This year's Conference will be held on 3rd October 2010. Planning meetings are already happening and it's promising to be a good one. Put the date on your calendar and come along to see what the wider LETS community is up to. Guaranteed to raise your enthusiasm for LETS, and a great fun time as well.

COME AND VISIT US AT THE CLUB any Tuesday or Wednesday from 10 to 1 p.m. We'd be happy to show you how to get the best from your LETS membership. We may be at an outside table as the wireless internet connection is having a few problems. We are thinking of maybe setting a regular monthly day for "tutorials" for those of you who are having trouble negotiating the CES. We can help you put through your transactions, enter notices, change your details, send announcements to all the other members, etc. LET us know what you think.

Get the most from CES!

Your announcements and advertisements can now be sent out to all members online. Contact the office on 5494 3113 or email letsmaleny@gmail.com to share your news.

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bunyas

Angela Vivian
Cert IV Kinesiology
R.N. BSc (physiology)
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Bunya Markets 2010

Is anybody out there?

Are you enthusiastic about LETS? Do you love markets? Would you like to foster a sense of community within LETS? Would you like to earn your bunyas having fun? If yes, then you are the right person to coordinate the Maleny LETS Markets for 2010! This would be an easy, low key, fun thing to undertake. Support available to get you started.

If you would like to host a LETS Market experience in 2010 or be our market coordinator, phone the office now on 5494 3113 or call in at the LETS Office, Upfront Club, 31 Maple Street, Maleny – Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 11am – 1pm.

THE HOUSE THAT LETS BUILT

with John Champagne – Bega LETS – LETS National Conference 2008

This is a story of 'Head, Hands and Heart'. It is a true story of community in action when Bega recently took on a huge project which was inspired by Ted Trainor who talked about the 'mortgage trap'. As a result, a Bega LETS member spent 20,000 – 30,000 LETS units (Sapphires) to build a house.



Avril Fink, who was connected with the local Steiner School acquired 5 – 6 acres on the Steiner property. This project was a testimony to people thinking outside the square in areas of child raising, education and many other things as well. Avril was a woman known to be scrupulously honest and was upfront about going into such a huge debit. The decision to build the house coincided with a downturn in Bega LETS. This project actually also made Bega LETS look at the inadvisability of imposing a debit limit on members.

A local builder was prepared to lead the team of workers. He worked with Avril to design the house. It was to be simple, fairly small and passive solar in design. A hydraulic ram was hired on LETS to make the mud bricks...300 to 400 per day. Building in mud brick is extremely labour intensive. Workers were taught building skills on the job. It was a great alternative to the dole involving kids and the elderly as well. There were between two and twelve people on site each day with Avril providing lunch and cuppas.

A huge staircase was cut from a eucalypt on the property. A concrete lintel was constructed between the two stories to suspend the mezzanine floor. There wasn't much concern with WHS issues!! The lower floor was made from mud, puddled and left to set. This was stamped with a tile pattern then sealed. It looked quite elegant. The internal walls were sealed with 'acropoly' and silt...outside with silt and cow manure. There is an enzyme in the cow's gut similar to that in termite mounds which strengthens the mud. Most of the resources came from the site. The house has solar panels for power, a Rotoloo slow combustion stove (this backs up the solar HWS and is fuelled by timber on site) and vegie garden. Material costs were about \$12,000 with the rest in LETS units. Workers then had to cover the layers each night or when it rained while building was going on, to prevent weather damage and scouring. It was a huge relief when the roof went on.

Workers earned between 5,000 and 8,000 LETS units each over the course of construction. They could then use them on their own houses knowing there was a skilled 'building crew' out there. Around 7-8 houses were worked on after Avril's place was built. She is working off her debit slowly by making cakes, children's entertainment, WWOOFing, etc. All involved feel that a lot of Sapphires have been flushed through the system and new skills being learned in the process.

Avril's house had building approval. All was fine with Council and Insurance regulations. Fortunately the groundwork was done by the pioneers of the 70's in challenging the narrow thinking of regulatory bodies. This kind of project could be the answer to the current housing crisis.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Margi O'CONNELL

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MALO0653

Wendy van der DRIFT

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MALO0037

Invitation

To "The Welcome Mat:" – make new friends and meet old ones. New residents in Maleny district very welcome! Come on your own or bring the whole family ~ No experience necessary!

Fun-draiser Board Games Night
\$5 - Proceeds to the "Building Community" Fund

2nd Thursday of each month – next one on
Thursday, 11 March



\$12 Dinner (optional) from 5.30pm



Games (optional) from 7pm or as early as you wish. Please bring your own board games if you have them!

The Upfront Club, 31 Maple St, Maleny

Please book: Terri Bates 5435 2667 tkbates@gotalk.net.au

TRAINING for LETS MEMBERS *in the use of the* COMMUNITY EXCHANGE SYSTEM

The CES website affords users ready access to their account details and the opportunity to trade locally and globally. It's LETS made easy.

If you would like to know more about how to use this system please call into the Upfront Club on a Tuesday or Wednesday between 11am and 1pm. If these times are not suitable, register your interest at the office.

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Email: malo@community-exchange.org

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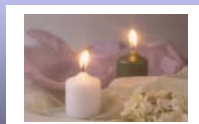
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Chenrezig Institute, Sunshine Coast
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Dates and locations available upon request

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Monday, Friday and Saturday nights

WATCH OUT

**FOR
 "RATHER BIZR'S"**



100% BUNYA BASKET

From the EDITORS DESK

September of this year will mark nine years since I took over from Barbara Cunningham as the Maleny LETS Newsletter Editor. It has been an incredible experience and a great privilege to participate in a system that promotes abundance and improves quality of life.



A trip down memory lane...snippets from past LETS Newsletters:

SNITCHES and BITCHES
 from the **BALL...**
September 2001

Dressing up for the Outrageously Posh Ball set the pace for a fabulously fun-filled evening. There were silks, satins, sequins, salsa, sandwiches, and sanitation; seductive, second-hand costumes and simply scintillating conversation. A seemingly satisfying Saturday... However, some were seen to be seedy on Sunday!

Mary, Tina or Sammy? She wore a black velvet mini dress and the brown, bobbed wig, complete with fringe, spilled over her cheeks. The hair was adorned with a headband and spray of flowers... "Such a *soft* look," was one remark. Then, when it was suggested that she was a Mary Tyler-Moore look-a-like, she said she had been aiming more for the Tina Turner look. Her friend (now ex-friend) retorted, "Sorry, but you don't have the legs for Tina!"

Spies were everywhere on the night and our own infamous Gaby slipped into a new persona, complete with blonde curly wig and was seen doing a Rumba in the kitchen. Go Gaby!!

Arcadia (Carmen Miranda) Flynn's scorching look lived on beyond the ballroom and was discussed over coffee in the Upfront Club the following week. She was described as stunningly gorgeous by one of the town's most eligible bachelors. When asked for a comment, husband Duncan said, "Yes, we have no bananas, we have no bananas today.!!"

The Latin dancing was a hit and the lovers of the dance floor, Rid & Carmel gave us a show to remember. Dancing that is!

LETS do it again!



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Submissions for the next newsletter need to be at the office (if you are not online) or emailed directly to Gay at visionpower@aapt.net.au by 14 May.



- BUNYA CLASSIFIEDS -



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***I.T. Services**: Ph: James on
5429 6589



SUNSHINE COAST LETS MARKET DAY
4th Wednesday of each month



NAMBOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE
Shearer St, Nambour



Phone: (07) 5476 2332 or (07) 5441 7988 for details

100% BUNYA TRADERS

If you would like to be included on this list please phone the Maleny LETS Office

Kaelana – Email: tap-in2eft@hotmail.com EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) Practitioner

Terri BATES (Dip.Couns.) –Ph:5435 2667: Counselling; Grief & Loss; Relationships; Life Changes; Identity; Disability; Anxiety; Women’s Issues; Inner Child Work (It’s never too late to have a happy childhood); Motivation; Conflict Mediation; Resolution; Communication; Clarification & Strategising # 2667

Chris OKANE B Com (Appl Pych), Hons Dip Craniosacral Therapy, Dip Remedial Massage, Member PACT – Ph: 0437 744 088: Craniosacral therapy; Counselling & voice dialogue; Therapeutic & rhythmic massage; Relaxation & meditation; Stress management ~ # 7152

Margaret WILLIAMS – Ph: 0433 916 451: Illustrator – tuition ~ #1821

Kathy SHACKLEFORD – Ph: 5439 9573: Hawaiian Massage and other therapies ~ #1405

Mary GARDEN – Ph: 5494 9797: Editing – 30B per hour ~ # 75

Susie & Barry DUNCAN/TRAILL – Ph: 5429 6622: Dog Walking; Nature Walks; Wildlife Advice #1910

Alex MITCHELL – Ph: 5494 1097 (Landsborough): Cheap furniture; second-hand kids clothes; Box trailer hire # 6664

Tommy LEONARD – Ph: 0409 264 276: Troubadour; CD – Spiral of Change # 107

Clare & Paul RUSSELL – Ph: 5429 6662: Handmade cards (general, Christmas) # 9953

Robin CLAYFIELD – Ph: 5494 4707: Gifts for Wild Women: Book 30B; Set (Book & Cards) 70B # 7171

RATHER BIZR – Maple Street, Maleny: Check out the 100% Bunya basket ~ #2402

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While it is preferred that you trade in 100% bunyas, part bunyas/part \$\$ is acceptable

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Lines Ad	2 B per line
Single Column	2 B per cm
Double Column	4 B per cm
1/4 Page	25 B
1/3 Page	30 B



LETS MARKETS

Offer your place as a gathering for a LETS Market and be rewarded with a day of fun & friends.
Phone the Office on 5494 3113 to book.

LETS OFFICE HOURS

at THE UPFRONT CLUB

TUE	10.00am - 1.00pm
WED	10.00am - 1.00pm

If you wish to leave something for LETS out of the above office hours, please place your notice in an envelope marked 'LETS' and leave it in the 'red box' which is on the wall to the right of the door at Maleny Credit Union.

MONTHLY LETS MEETINGS

Usually the second Wednesday of each month at 2pm (confirm with the office). The next meeting is 2pm, Wednesday, 10th March at the UpFront Club

Come along for a cuppa and chat
MEMBERS WELCOME!

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LETS NEWLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS - This is your Newsletter...

All contributions are welcome (subject to space and the discretion of the editor). Tell us about your special events - birthdays, anniversaries, etc. Share anecdotes, recipes, affirmations, poems and stories. Promote LETS. Contact Gay Liddington: Email: visionpower@aapt.net.au