

www.yorklets.org.uk

January 2011



Community Newsletter

Happy New Year !

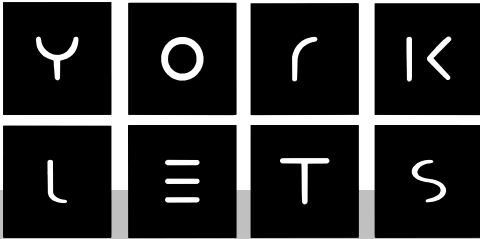
Well here we are at the start of another year – 2011. This is a special year for YorkLETS, as the organisation was formed in 1993, so will be officially ‘coming of age’ at the grand old age of eighteen!

Since 1993, several hundred people have joined YorkLETS, many for a number of years, and have traded thousands of Yorkys’ worth of goods and services of all kinds. Services bought and sold have included help with housework and gardening, alternative therapies, piano lessons, pet-sitting, bread-baking, poetry performances, plumbing, lifts, accommodation, hairdressing... and much more, while items traded over the years have ranged from cupcakes and furry toys through to bicycles, computers and furniture... in fact it’s hard to think of anything that hasn’t been offered at one time or another!

Of course, YorkLETS is not just about trading – we have had some fantastic social events too. Current committee members fondly remember picnics, country walks, pub crawls, ceilidhs, garden parties, wine-tastings, soup Saturdays, quiz nights, and even a YorkLETS wedding! (Actually some of the committee members don’t remember much about the wine-tastings...)



Contact the Newsletter and let us know which events you’ve most enjoyed, and we will choose the most popular to celebrate YorkLETS’ 18th birthday later in 2011!



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Your YorkLETS Committee

Co-ordinator/Publicity

John Cossham
01904 422344

johncossham@tiscali.co.uk

Yorkey Accountant

Will Miles
7 Sutton Way
York YO30 6JF
01904 679003

mathsdancer@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Melody Clarke
01904 426358

melody_clarke@yahoo.co.uk

Other committee members

Sue Hulbert
Kay Watkins

Membership Secretary/ Sterling Accountant

vacant



Recent celebrations

YorkLETS members enjoyed two seasonal celebrations since the last newsletter: a Halloween party and the Christmas Fair.

The Halloween party took place on 30th October. Appropriately, thirteen people attended, and shared pumpkin soup, pie and lanterns (one of which is pictured below), as well as traditional ginger parkin and spooky iced buns, around a cosy log fire.



The Christmas Fair at the end of November was a great event, which attracted around 40 people, despite some challenging weather conditions. There were stalls from LETS members (pictured is Melody and Simon Clarke's stall), as well as one from local charity Refugee Action York, selling a wide selection of seasonal goodies, second-hand books and bric-a-brac.



YorkLETS Plant & Seed Swap'n'Trade

Woodyard Farm, Heslington, YO10 5DX, 1.00pm – 5.00pm. Give your spring garden a boost! Drop in and sell, swap or buy all kinds of plants, seeds and other garden goodies – or just grab a cuppa and meet up with other LETS members. For directions tel: 01904 426358 (Melody & Simon Clarke)



Yorkys –v-£££s - the verdict

Over the past few months, YorkLETS has been reviewing the practice of advertising trades in a mixture of Yorkys and sterling. In the last newsletter (September 2010) we asked for your thoughts on the issue, and a good number of members responded, with helpful and thoughtful observations and suggestions which were invaluable in informing the committee's discussion. Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation!

After a lively debate, the decision has been made to introduce the following new guidelines.

- no more than 25% of the price of goods or services advertised through YorkLETS should be in sterling (and no less than 75% in Yorkys)
- if a price is advertised as 'negotiable', the seller should give some guidance as to the likely actual price

The new guidelines will appear shortly on the YorkLETS website (www.yorklets.org.uk). Members will also receive a reminder when completing their annual update of Directory entries.

Yoga in York

Monday 8pm - 9pm	Weight Loss Yoga	Y6
Thursday 11.15am-12.15pm	Back Care Yoga	Y5
Private lessons also available – please ask. Back Care relaxation CD		Y10

See www.yogainyork.co.uk / 01904 654355 / 07891 989310



Forthcoming Events

a selection of local events you may be interested in...

- **29 – 30 January** York Residents Festival (Residents First weekend). Free or heavily-discounted entry to many local visitor attractions for York residents, together with special exhibitions, shows and live music events. www.visityork.org
- **Mon 7 February** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the [Seahorse Hotel](#), Fawcett Street. (7.30-8.00pm: committee meeting)
8.00pm onwards: social and trading evening – **all welcome**
- **19 – 27 February** Jorvik Viking Festival. Public events – many of them free – including lectures, arts and crafts, encampments, river events, saga-telling, and full-scale battle re-enactments are on offer in York throughout the week. www.jorvik-viking-centre.co.uk
- **Sat 20 February** St. Olave's Church Hall, Marygate Lane, 1.45pm. Meet and talk with Maryam Bibi, founder of Kwendo Kor, which works with women and girls in NW Pakistan. Preceded by bring'n' share lunch at 12.30pm. Presented by York One World Linking Association (YOWLA)
- **5 – 7 March** York Fair Trade Market, Parliament Street. Experience the amazing quality and variety of fair trade goods: food and drink, handicrafts, clothing, bags, fashion...from traditional Inca crafts to Himalayan clothing - it's all there! Alongside the market on the Saturday there will be Latin music, dancing, drumming and singing
- **Mon 7 March** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the [Seahorse Hotel](#), Fawcett Street. (7.30-8.00pm: committee meeting)
8.00pm onwards: social and trading evening – **all welcome**
- **Sat 2 April** YorkLETS Plant & Seed Swap'n'Trade, Woodyard Farm, Heslington, YO10 5DX, 1.00pm – 5.00pm. Give your spring garden a boost! Drop in and sell, swap or buy all kinds of plants, seeds and other garden goodies – or just grab a cuppa and meet up with other LETS members. For directions tel: 01904 426358 (Melody & Simon Clarke)
- **Mon 4 April** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the [Seahorse Hotel](#), Fawcett Street. (7.30-8.00pm: committee meeting)
8.00pm onwards: social and trading evening – **all welcome**

...hope to see you at some of them!