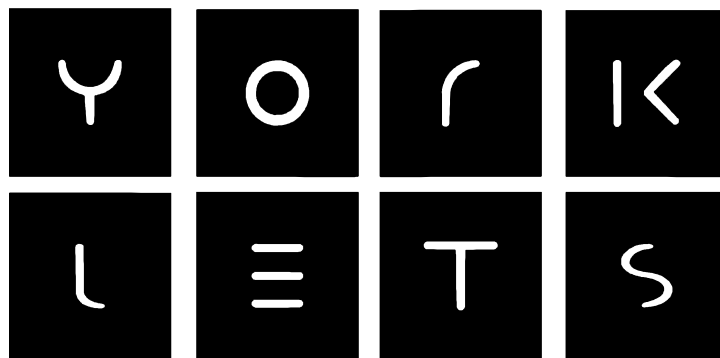


www.yorklets.org.uk



November 2012



## Community Newsletter

### **It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...**



It's bigger! It's better! It's YorkLETS's famous Christmas Market! And this year it's on... Sunday 16th December, 2pm - 6pm at Priory Street Centre, York. A great opportunity to: - pick up some last minute festive essentials - make a few Yorkys and/or £s by having a stall - meet up with LETS members and others over coffee/mince pies - win fabulous prizes in our raffle - enjoy the mystery live entertainment (5.00 – 5.40pm)! Admission is free, and limited parking is available at the venue.

Stalls confirmed so far include:

YorkLETS – grand Christmas raffle

My Kind of Teddy - beautiful hand crafted soft toys from upcycled materials

York & District Dyslexia Association -

Skipton Training & Wellness Centre -

Two Ridings Community Foundation – delicious cakes and bakes

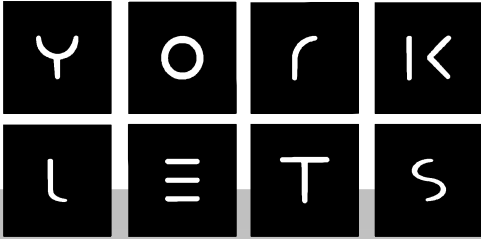
York Women's Counselling Service -

Liz Chapman – fabulous jewellery in all kinds of styles

Phoenix trading (Cancer Research & hospices) – creative Christmas cards, wrap and gift boxes

...as well as individual LETS members' stalls....

If YOU would like a stall at this exciting event (£5 or Y5), contact Natalie Clarke on [Natalie.clarke@live.co.uk](mailto:Natalie.clarke@live.co.uk) – but be quick...they're being snapped up!



[www.yorklets.org.uk](http://www.yorklets.org.uk)

### **Your YorkLETS Committee**

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### **Newsletter Editor**

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### **Harvest festival trading event**

Much fun had by all! LETS members gathered at Melody & Simon Clarke's house on 22 September to socialise and trade. Despite the rather gloomy summer, harvested goods on offer included dried fruits, home-baked buns, and potatoes, and plenty of trading took place.



### **Conference**

The first ever Alternative Currencies conference was hosted by YorkLETS on 25th October. Speakers from LETSLink UK, YorkLETS, York Timebank, the Lewes Pound and the Brixton Pound each contributed to a provocative and wide-ranging discussion on the pros and cons of various types of currency. Keynote speaker Thomas Greco, from Beyond Money - a US based thinktank on alternatives to mainstream finance - gave an excellent talk exploring the barriers to success for such systems. The first ever Alternative Currencies conference was hosted by YorkLETS on 25th October. Speakers from LETSLink UK, YorkLETS, York Timebank, the Lewes Pound and the Brixton Pound each contributed to a provocative and wide-ranging discussion on the pros and cons of various types of currency. Keynote speaker Thomas Greco, from Beyond Money - a US based thinktank on alternatives to mainstream finance - gave an excellent talk exploring the barriers to success for such systems.

As a result of talks on the day, YorkLETS has a meeting planned with the York Timebank project, where we will look at ways we can work together in the future to benefit both schemes' members. If you have any ideas on this, please do get in touch.

## Important news about membership

For several years, membership of YorkLETS has been set at £12 or Y12 a year, with the option to pay Y1 per month by automatic deduction from your account. We have been reviewing this, and at the November meeting it was agreed that from 2013-14, the cost will reduce to **£5 or Y5 a year**, and will be paid in a single payment each spring. This change will make your Yorky statements clearer, and should be easier for those administering the system (as they only have to take one payment from each member per year) - plus, of course, it saves you Y7 each year. The change has been made possible by the increased use of the website and email, which have reduced the system's printing and postage costs, as well as its carbon footprint.



## Meeting dates – result of poll

You will have spotted the poll emailed to LETS members this month, asking if you would prefer a different day or time for regular monthly meetings. Thank you for the great response to this, including some very useful, thoughtful comments about meetings. The result is now in, and meetings will now take place on the **second Thursday of each month, from 3pm to 4pm**. For the time being, we will stay in our current venue (Priory Street Centre). It would be fantastic to see lots of YorkLETS members at your next meeting, which, under the new arrangements, will be on **Thursday 13th December at 3pm** – pop it in your diary now!



## Can you help?

YorkLETS is a voluntary organisation, so it relies on the work of its members to keep it healthy. Could you get involved?? There are all kinds of tasks that need doing: staffing the LETS stall at community events, writing short articles for the website and the newsletter, helping with the annual membership renewals, displaying posters for LETS events, hosting a party or trading day for YorkLETS members...and much more.

Don't forget you can earn Y7 per hour for any work you do for LETS. If you're interested in helping out, why not contact one of the committee (listed previous page) or drop in to any monthly meeting?

# Forthcoming Events

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

- **Thursday 13 Dec** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the Priory Street Centre 3.00 - 4.00pm: committee meeting, social and trading – **all welcome**
- **15 – 16 December** The Festival of Angels promises it will transform York's unique streets into a winter wonderland of ice sculptures, stalls and street entertainment. This free event runs from 10am to 6pm on Saturday and 11am to 5pm on Sunday. A magical weekend of ice sculptures and outdoor entertainment with a sprinkling of snow guaranteed! Details: [info@festivalofangels.com](mailto:info@festivalofangels.com)
- **Sunday 16 Dec** YorkLETS Christmas Market, Priory Street Centre, 2.00 – 6.00pm. Lots of stalls with everything you need for a perfect Christmas. Mystery live entertainment from 5.00pm, raffle drawn 5.45pm.
- **Thursday 10 January** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the Priory Street Centre 3.00 - 4.00pm: committee meeting, social and trading – **all welcome**
- **26 - 27 January** York Residents' Festival: don't miss out on free and cheap entry to a record number of the city's world class attractions and exhibitions as well as enjoying special rates at some superb restaurants and shops. Proof of York residency required. For details call City of York Council, 01904 550099.
- **Thursday 14 February** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the Priory Street Centre 3.00 - 4.00pm: committee meeting, social and trading – **all welcome**
- **Sunday 10 March** YorkLETS Spring cycle ride to Beningborough Hall. Shake off those winter cobwebs with a gentle cycle ride to this lovely National Trust site. Setting off from outside The Maltings pub at 10.00am, and returning mid afternoon, to leave plenty of time for exploring the famous gardens, looking at the house, and enjoying lunch – either bring a picnic, or visit the on site café. Please contact Melody ([melody.clarke@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:melody.clarke@yahoo.co.uk)) if you'd like to join in this trip.
- **Thursday 14 March** YorkLETS monthly meeting at the Priory Street Centre 3.00 - 4.00pm: committee meeting, social and trading – **all welcome**

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