



# CamLETTER

News and Views for Members of CamLETS

PO Box 483, Cambridge CB5 8WX • [www.cam.letslink.org](http://www.cam.letslink.org)

## SOCIAL AND TRADING MEETINGS

SUNDAY APRIL 1st 3 – 5pm  
Plant and Garden (see Page 2)

Hosted by  
Anne Rivington/Richard Robinson  
#0327

SUNDAY MAY 6<sup>th</sup> 3 – 5pm

Hosted by  
Margaret Grover #0399

All members are welcome to the  
Core Group meetings.  
The next one will be held on  
17<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm  
at Helen Gilbert's #0268

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Well, I thought that spring was on its way, but today (March 5<sup>th</sup>) I am not so sure! However, next month sees the wonderful and most successful of all our annual trading days on April 1<sup>st</sup> (more details on page 2). There is always space for a plant in a corner or a pot on the windowsill.

Trading will also give you practice in doing your own accounting on-line – hopefully by then most of you will have found the time to activate your membership. If you haven't managed to sign on for any reason, members of the Core Group will be there to help or give advice on using our newly created website.

Also in this newsletter we give an example of a profile already completed to show how it can be done. Well done, Michele and David!

We were sorry to hear of the death of Jean Charnley in February. She had been a respected member of Camlets for many years.

Best wishes, Liz Roman

## Grand Spring Plant Sale - Sunday April 1st, 3 -5pm

Plants plus anything else on a garden theme, all being traded for Cams. Bring your cuttings, seedlings, seeds, garden books, tools, pots, trays etc.... Come along with whatever your garden can spare as well

as all the usual jams, bric-a-brac etc. and get stocked up before the growing season really gets going. A great chance to talk over a cup of tea with other CamLETS members (this annual event is always well attended) and particularly to swop tips as well as plants.

Hosted by Anne and Richard #0327

## **Defunct Printer or Clapped Out Computer?**

I was outraged when my printer/photocopier/scanner was declared kaput after only three years. However people say that printers are notorious for not lasting very long. I phoned Vicky at the City Council and she suggested taking it to Reboot in Waterbeach. I did so and discovered that it is a local social enterprise (i.e. a charity) which refurbishes for sale donated computers and printers, or failing that it dismantles and recycles component parts. They boast that **nothing** goes to landfill! (Perhaps not directly from Reboot, but I can't believe some of the 'recycled' parts don't end up in landfill via third parties.)

They also sell refurbished computers, see [www.thecovergroup.org.uk/reboot](http://www.thecovergroup.org.uk/reboot). We need more green enterprises like this. Helen Gilbert #0268.

## **Website Updates**

As the website is now up and running, there is no longer a need for the Yahoo group, so this has been discontinued.

If you are still not sure how to go about getting onto the website, do get in touch with Lulu and see if a Buddy can assist you. Or better still, come along to the next trading day for advice! You will need to contact Mary Taylor for a password, so you can do that at any time.

## **Frequently Asked Questions – Part One**

### ***1. Can non-members see my personal details, like my address?***

No. They can't. They are only visible to current members of CamLETS who have passwords to access the site. You can see this for yourself if you look at the website without signing in. You will find that if you try to look at the Members List for instance, you will be asked to sign in.

### ***2. I've been asked for my Member ID but I what is it and where do I find it?***

Your Member ID is your account number as four digits (prefix zeros to make it up to four digits), e.g. account number 3 will be Member ID 0003, number 24 will be 0024, mine will be 0249.

### ***3 Who creates my password? Where does it come from? How do I know I am the only one who knows it?***

The website very cleverly randomly creates your password just for you and no-one else but you knows what it is. That is why it is important that you keep it safe. If you don't like it or

find it difficult to remember you can change it something easier after you have logged on for the first time.

**4. *Help! I've forgotten my password! How do I get back into the website now?***

You can ask the website for a new password when you go to log in.

**5. *Can I register more than one email address with the system?***

No. The website will only recognise one email address for each member. That is why it is vital that you update your email address in the website if you change it otherwise you won't receive any messages from us.

**6. *Why do all my listed offers finish with the first four characters of my postcode?***

This is a compromise measure so that the public can see the general areas where current members live but not see exactly where they are. A complete postcode would tell people which block of flats you live in. Members however can see the whole postcode. When we have developed our maps section this will be useful for people wanting to find out where members live.

**7. *I would like to use the website myself but I don't have internet access at home, what do I do?***

A password can be sent to you in the post which you can use at a library, or internet café etc. or at the home of another CamLETS member who offers internet use via the system. However, if you are logging onto the website from a public computer **it is absolutely vital** that you don't ask the computer to remember your password and that you remember to log out when you have finished.

**8. *I don't have any interest in computers and I don't want to use the CamLETS website. Can't I just get the paper Directory like always?***

Unfortunately not. We know this is not a popular proposition for some people so we created a new Helper role called Buddies to help people who don't want to use the website. Anyone one who needs one will be assigned a Buddy who will help them to manage their account via the website. Buddies will be properly trained and they will be paid by the system so getting their help won't cost these members any extra Cams. They will be supported by the Buddy Coordinator.

**9. *Can I still use paper Cam cheques even if I have a Buddy? And can I still have a copy of the Blue, Yellow and Pink Pages?***

Yes, you can still use paper Cam cheques as normal and our Cams Treasurer will carry out the transactions online for you. Your Buddy will be able to print off copies of the current Offers and Wants for you if you like. However as these will be updated every time a member adds something to or deletes something from their Profile, you might prefer to ask them to do a search of the system for you instead. You are much more likely to find what you are looking for that way.

**10. *Is there a discussion page on the website?***

No. A discussion page was not included in the ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS for the website and was not immediately available from LETSLinkUK. We are hoping that we will be able to provide this facility in the future. *Lulu Agate #249*

Here's an extract of one entry at our web site – we hope it encourages you to visit [www.cam.letslink.org](http://www.cam.letslink.org) . Enjoy your community!

<p> <b>Summary for Michele &amp; David LAMBERT</b></p> <p><b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b></p> <p><b>Member:</b> Michele &amp; David LAMBERT (0060) <b>Activity:</b> <a href="#">2 exchanges total</a> for a sum of 90 cams, last on 15/1/12 <b>Joined:</b> 1/10/93 <b>Expire Date:</b> 1/10/12 <b>Email:</b> m&amp;d@xxxxx.com <b>Primary Phone:</b> 01223 xxxxxx <b>Neighbourhood:</b> Arbury <b>Town/Grid:</b> Camb E7 <b>Postcode __:</b> CB4_XXX</p>	 <p><b>About:</b></p> <p>David and Michele joined Camlets in 1993. We have met and in some cases befriended several great and generous people on the scheme. We have babysat and been babysat, given and taken lifts, traded homemade bread, jam and pizza, taught Spanish and French, edited university theses, video'd events, watered plants and walked dogs, decorated and rented holiday homes, used a listening ear, and had computer, carpentry and plumbing needs addressed at home and in France. Most original service: the use of a canoe for the afternoon! Most original offer: belly dancing / salsa lessons!</p>
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### **OFFERED LISTINGS**

#### **Accommodation**

[Holiday Accommodation and Retreat](#) Retreats for writing or just recharging batteries in rural Dordogne, France. Holiday house in Dordogne, France (sleeps 8) or converted Piggery (sleeps 2/4) - Flat in Marrakesh (sleeps 2) - ( cams / cash cams) CB4\_

#### **Building & DIY**

[Decoration](#) House decoration (painting) (hourly rate 10 cams) CB4\_

**Editing/Writing...** [and more...]

### **WANTED LISTINGS**

No listings found.

**Cambridge Local Exchange Trading Scheme • [www.cam.letslink.org](http://www.cam.letslink.org)**

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