



## Monthly News from the Wairarapa Green Dollar Exchange Inc

*...A local fruit and vegetable grower's truck has just broken down. He doesn't have much money, so he can't really afford to get it fixed at the local garage. Meanwhile... the local mechanic has just received a call from his wife complaining that there is no food at home. So she won't be able to make much for dinner tonight. The mechanic is feeling a little stressed out. He, too, has run out of money...*

## 2009 Markets

Sat **16 May**, "WAIS UP"  
Auction, SCH, Carterton  
Sat **20 June**, SJH, Greytown  
Fri **3 July** AGM and mini-  
market, WCC, Masterton  
Sat **29 Aug**, Carterton  
Sat **10 Oct**, Featherston  
\*\* note change of date \*\*  
Sat **21 Nov**, Greytown  
Sat **19 Dec**, Masterton  
Stallholder enquires to our  
co-ordinator Keith Sawyer -  
06 377 0717 or E-mail:  
[letstrade@wise.net.nz](mailto:letstrade@wise.net.nz)

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Still only \$20\* per year!  
Post cheque to;  
Wairarapa Green Dollar Exchange  
PO Box 2100, Masterton  
or pay online to account  
030687 0321184 00  
Pay soon so we can avoid the  
costs and time-wasting hassle  
of chasing overdue subs.  
\*\$25 if paid late.

### MORE LOCAL MARKETS

#### Featherston

1st Sat of Month  
9am – 12pm @ "Karm" Carpark  
(just south over the railway lines)  
Contact  
Cyrille: 06 308 6130

#### Martinborough

Every Sunday  
10 – 2pm on Nelson St.  
Contact Robin  
on 06 306 9891

#### Masterton Farmers Market

Every Saturday 8.30am –  
12.30 @ the Solway  
Showgrounds  
Contact Eddie  
021 774666

#### Greytown Craft Market

1st Saturday of the Month  
St Johns Hall  
9.30 – 3.30  
Contact: Wendy  
06 3049287

### "WAIS UP" AUCTION - Saturday 16th May 2009 @ CARTERTON GREEN DOLLAR MARKET

*The WAIS UP auction is a fundraising/promotional exercise to help raise awareness of the benefits of becoming a Green Dollar Member.*

It will be held on Saturday the 16th of May at the Carterton Senior Citizens' Club. The proceeds (in WAIS) will go to the Green Dollar's administration account which has been in the red lately, mainly due to membership "drop-outs". Membership drop-outs are members who have left the exchange without balancing their accounts to zero! This auction will help improve the health of our accounts!

The items in the auction will be displayed and listed at the Green Dollar Market in Carterton - There will be space for people to place their bids before the actual auction is held at 11.30am.

We now have five items up for grabs at the auction:

- One full day's labour (Kelby)
- Tailoring Services (Glenyss Kurtz)
- A Barbeque Cover (Lyn Laver)
- Mixed bag of home grown vegetables and fruit (Keith)
- Box of Produce and Preserves (Helen Dew)

All members (or prospective members) are invited to donate something of value to the auction – some baking, home grown produce, eggs, crafts, general labour, website development...anything!!

Please contact Kelby on 06 379 9279 / [mrkelbyjohn@gmail.com](mailto:mrkelbyjohn@gmail.com) by Friday 15th May if you would like to contribute something to our auction.

We may make this a regular feature of the markets.

I think its going to be a lot of fun, so bring your friends!  
- Kelby.

## REPORT ON COMMUNITY CURRENCIES CONFERENCE

By Kelby Courtney



*Attendees gathering for a photo*

The Community Currencies Conference was well attended at the beautiful Quaker Settlement in Whanganui. People from all across the country and abroad came to share their ideas on a range of topics ranging from Interest-Free Loans to Indigenous currencies and from Fully Integrated Software Solutions to Vege-Box based currencies.

The keynote speaker at the conference was Thomas H Greco Jr. who spoke about reclaiming the “credit commons” – making the link between a shared local plot of land and a shared local trading system.

Thomas Greco’s book “Money – Understanding and Creating Alternatives to Legal Tender is available through Living Economies for G\$15 + NZ\$10 (See advertisement in the classifieds section).

Such a wealth of people attended this event which gives a lot of hope to the future of community currencies in Aotearoa, New Zealand. It was very heartening that there were a number young people attending the event – more than ever before. A lot of learning went down. The term “community currencies” was encouraged to be used as opposed to the term “alternative currencies”. This is because, in truth, community currencies are actually the real currencies of any sustainable community. Even though they are not mainstream they are far superior to our predominant monetary system. One idea that arose from the conference was how voucher systems, like our own WAIS Vouchers, could be used by local businesses to stimulate growth in their local economy. One way this could be achieved is by businesses offering vouchers to their customers as a “value back” bonus that customers can then spend at participating businesses or with people...like us!



*The “Quiet Room” was well used throughout.*

Personally, I found the event a very uplifting experience because everyone there believed, deep down, that social change will be facilitated through the growth of community-based exchange systems. The food was great too! - Kelby



## OOOBY?

So what exactly is OOOBY you ask? Ooooby stands for “Out Of Our Own Back Yards”. At the Community Currencies Conference a gentleman named Pete Russell and his mother were there to let you know all there is to know about... OOOBY!

Ooooby started in 2008 on Waiheke Island where Pete and his mother now live. Prior to setting up Ooooby they had both been involved in creating a barter exchange network in NSW, Australia. This worked really well and people used

this network a lot during the recession in the 1980s. After moving to New Zealand Pete decided to start an internet based network that allowed people from the local area to meet, share food, seedlings, seeds information and more! And now, this service is open to anyone in the world! So, there you have it. That’s OOOBY. Anyone can join and it’s free - there is an active group in the Wairarapa and this site can be used to promote the Wairarapa Green Dollar Exchange! The website is [www.ooooby.org](http://www.ooooby.org).

Below is a recent article from a publication called USA Today. It outlines the local currency initiatives happening around the country. If you have any ideas on how to grow the Wairarapa Green Dollar Exchange come to our next Committee meeting at 7.30pm, Thursday 21st May @ 108 Bannister St, Masterton.

**“COMMUNITIES PRINT THEIR OWN MONEY TO KEEP CASH FLOWING” by Marisol Bello**

A small but growing number of cash-strapped communities are printing their own money. Borrowing from the depression-era idea, they are aiming to help consumers make ends meet and support struggling local businesses. The systems generally work like this: Businesses and individuals form a network to print currency. Shoppers buy it a discount – say 95c for \$1 value – and spend the full value at stores that accept the currency.

Workers with dwindling wages are paying for groceries, yoga classes and fuel with Detroit Cheers, Ithaca hours in New York, Plenty in North Carolina or Berkshares in Massachusetts. Ed Collom, a University of Southern Maine Sociologist who has studied local currencies, says they encourage people to buy locally. Merchants, hurting because customers have cut back on spending, benefit as consumers spend the local cash. “We wanted to make new options available,” says Jackie Smith of South Bend, Indiana, who is working to launch a local currency. “It reinforces the message that having more local control of the economy in local hands can help you cushion yourself from the blows of the marketplace.

About a dozen communities have local currencies, says Susan Witt, founder of Berkshares in the Berkshires region of western Massachusetts. She expects more to do it. Under the Berkshares system a buyer goes to one of 12 banks and pays \$95 for \$100 worth of Berkshares, which can be spent in 370 local businesses. Since its start in 2006, the system, the largest of its kind in the country, has circulated \$2.3 million worth of Berkshares.

In Detroit, three business owners are printing \$4,500 worth of Detroit Cheers, which they are handing out to customers to spend in one of 12 shops.

During the Depression, local governments, businesses and individuals issued currency, known as scrip, to keep commerce flowing when bank closings led to a cash shortage.

By law, local money may not resemble federal bills or be prompted as legal tender of the United States, says Claudia Dickens of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. “We print the real thing,” she says. The IRS gets its share. When someone pays for goods or services with local money, the income to the business is taxable, says Tom Ochenschlager of the American institute of Certified Public Accountants. “It’s not a way to avoid income taxes or we’d all be paying in Detroit dollars,” he says.

Pittsboro, N.C., is reviving the Plenty, a defunct local currency created in 2002. It is being printed in denominations of \$1, \$5, \$20 and \$50. A local bank will exchange \$9 for \$10 worth of Plenty. “We’re a wiped out small town in America,” says Lyle Estill, president of Piedmont Biofuels, which accepts the Plenty. “This will strengthen the local economy...The nice thing about the plenty is that it can’t leave here.”

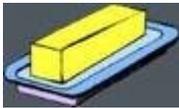
## THE “RUBBER BAND” PERFORM FOR MOTHERS DAY IN GREYTOWN



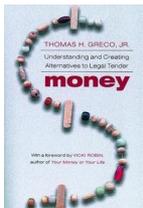
On Mothers Day, Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of May the Rubber Band will perform at the South Wairarapa Workingmen’s Club (SWWMC) in Greytown at 7pm. The Rubber Band is a 3 piece string band based in the Wairarapa. Their music follows the folksong tradition and includes some gospel, blues, country and contemporary styles. A smorgasbord dinner will be served with a free glass of wine given to all mothers. For bookings please ring the SWWMC on 06 3049420 or email [swwmc@wise.net.nz](mailto:swwmc@wise.net.nz)

*The Rubber Band will accept tips in Green Dollars on the night and is available to perform at your function for NZ\$50:G\$50 [therubberband@gmail.com](mailto:therubberband@gmail.com) 06 372 7021*

## WAIS Classifieds

FOR SALE	WANTED	FOR SALE	WANTED
<p>Certified Organic Butter for sale G\$12 per kg Pick up from Featherston Michele Stokes <b>06 3086553</b></p> 	<p><i>Send me your wanted and for sale items...</i></p> <p><i>a free service ☺</i></p> <p><a href="mailto:mrkelbyjohn@gmail.com">mrkelbyjohn@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Firewood Trailer \$60 Childs Bike Helmet \$5 Kuranui College Shorts \$10 <b>Debbie 06-3048148</b> Surf Board (5"10) \$120 Booties \$15 or Hoodie \$20 (50/50 G\$/NZ option) <b>Phone Kelby 06 379 9279</b></p>	<p>Organically Grown Produce G\$ / \$NZ</p> <p>Contact Kelby Vital Foods 06 379 9279 <a href="mailto:vitalfoodsNZ@gmail.com">vitalfoodsNZ@gmail.com</a></p>

## WAIS Advertisements

<h3 style="text-align: center;">Massage</h3>  <p><i>Massages are great for improving one's physical and emotional well-being. Treat yourself or someone special to a massage. Gift vouchers are available.</i></p> <p>Sue Dyer #1434 (G\$ or Kiwi\$) Phone: A/H 378 8633 or Mob 021 211 9900</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Computer Services</h3> <p>For <u>all</u> IBM Systems :- <i>Word Processing, Scanning, Accounts, Tuition...</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phone the Help-line!</p>  <p>Glenyss Kurtz (Dip B.C) # 1005 Phone: 06 378 6339 Email: <a href="mailto:kurtz@clear.net.nz">kurtz@clear.net.nz</a></p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Vetcare &amp; Veterinarian Services</h3> <p><i>Vet services – Pets, Re-homing, Vaccination, Puppy Pre-school and Cattery Service. Qualified Surgical and Medical Services.</i></p> <p><i>Also; Grooming, Hydro-Baths, Livestock and Farm Calls.</i></p> <p>Dr Heidi Ward-McGrath #1417 Phone: 377 7955 Fax: 377 2183</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">BSI</h3> <p>(Agro Chemicals Company)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Natural Seaweed or Synthetic Liquid Fertiliser</p> <p><i>For Vegetables, Fruits, Flowers, Lawn and even for your Farm.</i></p> <p>Green \$ and Kiwi \$ (50:50)</p> <p><i>for more information call:</i> Javaid Nasire # <b>Call Free 0800 77 55 11</b> Fax 06 370 3527</p>
<p><b>Machine or Hand-knitted Socks, Gloves, Hats Baby Jackets, Scarves, Mitts, Pilchers, Soft Toys Baking to Order Light Fruit Cakes, Loaves, Muffins, Biscuits</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Trish Moran <b>WAIS1166 Ph 3707071</b></p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">GREAT BOOK</h3> <p>“MONEY – Understanding and Creating Alternatives to Legal Tender, <i>by Thomas H Greco Jnr.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">G\$15 + \$NZ10 <b>Living Economies WAIS0009</b> 06 379 8034 / <a href="mailto:info@le.org.nz">info@le.org.nz</a></p> 	<h3 style="text-align: center;">WAIS VOUCHERS</h3>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Green Dollar Vests \$G10 plus \$NZ10</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Available from;</i> Green Dollar Office Wairarapa Community Centre 170 Dixon Street Masterton</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FIEJOAS \$3kg</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SEEDS \$1 pkt</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BULBS 20c each</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLANTS from \$2</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>JAM &amp; RELISH \$3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Helen Dew Ph 06 379 8034 <a href="mailto:helend@contact.net.nz">helend@contact.net.nz</a></i></p>

Office: Wairarapa Community Centre, 06 377 0717, 170 Dixon St, PO Box 2100, Kuripuni, Masterton [www.wais.org.nz](http://www.wais.org.nz)  
Co-ordinator: Keith Sawyer 06 377 5121, [letstrade@wise.net.nz](mailto:letstrade@wise.net.nz) Treasurer: Glenyss Kurtz 06 378 6339, [kurtz@clear.net.nz](mailto:kurtz@clear.net.nz)  
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