



Newsletter of the Wairarapa Green Dollars Exchange Inc.

Money is worth what it will help you to produce or buy and no more.

– Henry Ford

Markets 2013

- Sat 22 Feb: Carterton Events Centre
Sat 29 Mar: St John's Hall, Greytown
Sat 26 Apr: St James Church, Masterton
Sat 24 May: YMCA Masterton
Fri 6 Jun: AGM and mini-market,
Community Ctr, Masterton
Sat 26 Jul: St John's Hall, Greytown
Sat 23 Aug: Carterton Events Centre
Sat 27 Sep: YMCA Masterton
Sat 25 Oct: St James Church, Masterton
Sat 22 Nov: St John's Hall, Greytown
Sat 13 Dec: Carterton Events Centre

Markets run 9.30am–12.30pm.

Stallholders set up half an hour before.

Stallholder enquiries to our WAIS office.

WAIS Office:

Wairarapa Community Centre
41 Perry Street, Masterton 5810
06 377 0717

www.wais.org.nz

Co-ordinator:

Keith Sawyer

letstrade@wise.net.nz

Membership Support:

Catie-Lou Manson:

hungryhobbit@xtra.co.nz

Contact us in the way that best suits you with enquiries, offers and wants:



(06) 377 0717 – messages checked at least once daily, Mon–Fri.



email us at letstrade@wise.net.nz



Skype message or chat to [letstradewais](https://www.skype.com/people/letstradewais).



'Like' our WAIS Trading page to see the latest events & updates.



Subscribe to our blog: <http://letstradewais.blogspot.co.nz/>



Drop in or write to us at 41 Perry St, Masterton.

WAIARARAPA
G\$
GREEN DOLLARS

MARKET DAY
Saturday February 22
9.30am - 12.30pm
Carterton Events Centre, Carterton

Sausage Sizzle Delicious Baking Produce Crafts Plants
Knitwear Clothing Sweets Drinks CDs DVDs Books

NZ \$, Green \$ and WAIS Vouchers accepted
Guest stallholders welcome: Ph 06 377 0717
www.wais.org.nz

STOP, SHOP & STROLL on Market Day this coming weekend – your monthly one-stop shopping spree without your eftpos card! Invite your family, friends and work-mates as traders will also accept NZ\$. Bring your WAIS vouchers too; they're prettier than monopoly money and far more useful!

New Member Spotlight

Frank Van Steensel & Josje Neerincx of Wairarapa Eco Farm – WAIS0124



Left to right: Frank Van Steensel on the tractor at Wairarapa Eco Farm; Frank and Josje (at right) with their four children: Femke, Renske, Sanne and Wietze. Renske and Sanne both work regularly on the farm; some of the delicious produce available from the farm.

Another exciting Green Dollars trading opportunity came about in January, when Frank Van Steensel and Josje Neerincx from Wairarapa Eco Farm became WAIS members. Fresh, local, nutrient-rich, sustainably grown vegetables, fruit and eggs will be available to G\$ members all year round, for up to 100% Green Dollars – including as a weekly share delivered to convenient Wairarapa pickup points.

And in addition WAIS members can earn Green Dollars, or receive veggies in exchange for a few hours' work each week, by helping to harvest and pack on the Masterton farm. A perfect chance to learn more about organic growing and become more connected to the food we eat, the growers who produce it and the healthy soil it comes from.

Frank and Josje are the passionate, knowledgeable and hardworking team that created Wairarapa Eco Farm and its Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) component. A CSA is a community of individuals, families and groups who support local growers to farm sustainably. Members subscribe for a season's worth of vegetables, and share in both the risks and the bounty of agriculture, placing their food dollar directly in the hands of a local farm, and in exchange receive a share of fresh, organically grown vegetables each week.

CSAs have operated successfully for decades in Europe and there are many thousands of them in the US, but here in New Zealand there are only two or three operating, and none on the scale of this enterprise that has been growing rapidly in our own backyard for the past three years. Wairarapa Eco Farm, based at Frank and Josje's property in Greytown and on leased land on the outskirts of Masterton, has over 100 members, mostly in Wellington but with more members every month here in the Wairarapa, where the Eco Farm team plans to focus their energy this year on developing the membership and being present at markets and events.

Local Green Dollar member Benedicte Tollu works two half days a week at the Masterton farm in exchange for a large vegetable bag and – now Frank and Josje are members – for Green Dollars, and she has recently



Left to right: G\$ members already hard at work on the farm include Bénédicte Tollu and Libbi Dallas; Bénédicte is selling Eco Farm produce at local markets – last Sunday Di Grant helped her out on the stall and G\$ member Jenny was quick to make a purchase; G\$ member Antoinette Wilson discusses the weekly harvest with Frank out on the Masterton farm.



Left to right: G\$ member Di Grant quickly took up the opportunity to work a four-hour shift once a week in exchange for veggies and fruit; Frank shows off a crate of delicious nutritious Eco Farm carrots; G\$ member Antoinette has just harvested endive and corn; G\$ member Bénédicte Tollu packs bags for the more than 100 Eco Farm CSA members.

also begun selling the farm's produce at the Masterton Car Boot Sale on Sunday mornings. Of course she'll be present at the next Green Dollar market, as usual, and in future she'll have some extra Eco Farm vegetables for sale, too. Benedicte says working at the farm has been a wonderful opportunity to be outside doing physical, healthy work and has helped enormously toward the weekly food budget. WAIS members Vikki and Ian, of Weeds 'n' Windows, have both worked at the farm during the last two years and Antoinette Wilson started working there for a half day a year ago and by the end of the year had decided on a career change that sees her nearly full-time at the farm. It must be a great place to work! Since Frank and Josje joined Green Dollars in January, four new G\$ members have become part of the team, working for veggies or G\$ or both, and more workers are welcome!

Frank and Josje, both graduates in tropical agriculture in Holland, moved to New Zealand from the Netherlands over 20 years ago with a dream of creating a sustainable lifestyle here. Frank went on to become a soil microbiologist and agro-ecologist and has worked extensively in New Zealand's organic agriculture industry, while Josje's interests developed in rural development and resource management economics. Wairarapa Eco Farm is dedicated to creating an economically viable organic farm that nurtures its soil, plants, animals, and community of workers, and enlivens the connection between people and the source of their food. It's an ethos in line with that of the community support, trust and sharing that encapsulates Green Dollars – another great reason to welcome Frank and Josje on board!

Interested in working at Wairarapa Eco Farm?

- Four-hour shifts @ G\$15 per hour or in exchange for a large bag of veggies & fruit (enough to feed a small family).
- No gardening experience required – the team will work alongside you to begin with.
- You need to be willing to work rain or shine!

The All-new Zero Hero Feature!

Starting this month we have a new regular feature in the newsletter: the Zero Heroes Feature, a lead-up to our Zero Heroes Market every November. The feature will highlight active members who show balance in their trading by moving from below zero to above zero or vice versa. The more times Green Dollars members 'go through Zero' in a year, the stronger & healthier our trading system will be, and the more savings we all make in NZ\$.

Green Dollars member Graeme McArthur (WAIS0073) offers tool sharpening, proofreading, basic handy-man services and dog-walking. Graeme joined WAIS in June 2011 and since then has sharpened tools, baled hay, thrice-weekly dog-walked and recently completed a major paint preparation work, alongside others, for a grateful fellow Green Dollar member. Among some of the practical uses for spending his G\$, Graeme has bought dry firewood and was able to call upon rubbish disposal & garden maintenance services for his house, which he rented out while living in Christchurch for a year.



Saturday's Sizzle

What do Mitre 10 Mega, the Warehouse, Saturday mornings and smiling faces all have in common? Yes, you guessed it, the Green Dollars Sausage Sizzle fundraisers held early in January and February of this year. The fundraisers were to help top up Exchange funds as we await the outcome of our grant application to Lotteries to assist with running costs.



Paul, Sue and Catie-Lou with sausages to sell and the G\$ message to promote.

Between lots of customers coming and going, lots of banter flying back and forth, and many wonderful volunteer teams taking turns at the grill, the G\$ message was promoted and our profile raised in the community, and hundreds of dollars were raised.

Thanks to Mitre 10 Mega and the Warehouse for allowing us to use their sites, and in the case of Mitre 10 all their BBQ equipment as well, and to Breadcraft, who provided an early supply of subsidised bread. Special thanks also to all the volunteers who not only gave so much of their time but also in many cases food items for the BBQs. Sue and Paul, Hayden and Lyn, Roger and Mary, Catie-Lou, Jenny, Rachel, Libbi, Di and Keith made up these volunteer teams – all with big smiles throughout. All round, a great success!



Record Trading

December 2013 was another record trading month, with a total of W\$5,500 traded. There was no market in January, but nonetheless trading totalled W\$4,957. February is pumping along in activity: last week alone W\$3,000 worth of trading took place. Now, only a couple of days away from our next market, we are already on W\$4,956 for the month and it looks like February is set to sizzle in both weather and a new record month in trading. It's fantastic to see everyone trading so busily and enthusiastically within the community. Keep it up!



Welcome to these new members

WAIS0124 Frank & Josje, 022 095 8479 & 06 304 8116, csa@wefs.co.nz. See this month's spotlight feature for their organic offers. Wants: harvesters, weeders, and CSA members.

WAIS0125 Hillary Keen, 370 4184 hallo_hills@xtra.co.nz. Offers: Help with reading/writing/homework for those with poor eyesight/injury. Homework at primary school level or those needing a hand to learn the basics. Home-help assistance with daily living My Time Help in the garden/picking/packing etc...

WAIS Advertisements

Remember there are a variety of items for sale at the WAIS office.



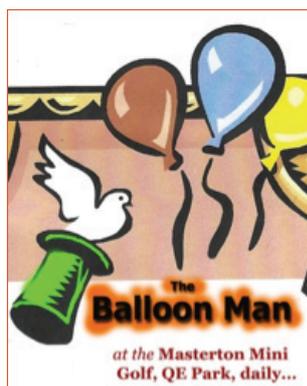
DVDs; local artist CDs; 2 sheepskins; G\$ pens, including funky torch pens; jam, sauce & chutneys; new books for kids & adults and other novelty items.
ALL 100% Green Dollars!!
Call in if you're passing Perry St for some great gift ideas.

Items for the March newsletter

Send any newsletter items for the next issue to the WAIS office

letstrade@wise.net.nz
or Ph: 06 377 0717

by the end of February 2014



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WAIS1476

 *paying the middlemen*

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or 021 105 6022

WAIS1476

WAIS Advertising

ADVERTISE HERE!

Regular boxed / formatted advertisements are W\$5 per issue.

Our newsletters are monthly and email updates (between newsletters) can also include adverts.

One-off classifieds are free to members.

Contact our WAIS Office.

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Frank & Maureen Craig
WAIS1253

WAIS office hours

Mon: 3.45pm-5pm
Tues: 9am-12.30pm & 3.45-5pm
Weds: 9am-12.30pm & 3.45-5pm
Thurs: 9am-12.30pm & 3.45-5pm
Fri: 3.45pm-5pm

Come and see Catie-Lou and Keith with your questions and ideas.

Community Centre
41 Perry St, Masterton