



Please borrow from me or your neighbours.

Please offer to lend something to others;
something which you don't already lend out.



As a 'freelender on a bicycle', I may be taking this further than you might think sensible with my motto:

'You can borrow anything I own'.*

The questions that follows are often:

- Does sharing really improve people's quality of life?
- What would happen if we all just gave? To what extent is gift economics a more sensible way to run the economy?
- How can we live in ways in which we co-operate more responsibly?

I'm also asking for somewhere to stay tonight, or when I'm next in your area.

I'd prefer to be invited by you to stay at your place rather than camping out or spending money on accommodation.

Spending money on accommodation reminds me how hard it can be to build trust when visiting somewhere away from home. Please help reinforce my belief in human kindness.

If you want to know/talk more before offering me any hospitality or before increasing the sharing in your local community, please go to www.freelenderonabicycle.wordpress.com (& let others know too).

Or you could just phone or text me on 0780 70 66 202 and once I've picked up your message I'll get back to you.

"Local sharing schemes like Landshare, Hospitality Club and Freelender.org mean you don't need to own your allotment, car or drill, and you can sofa-surf your way around the world without ever having to book a hotel. Such schemes were predicted only two years ago in Forum for the Future's project 'Low Carbon Living 2022; but are already proliferating on the web."

(from Forum for the Future, a leading think tank)



"If your preference is to borrow or lend without using any website that's fine and I'll provide support for you to do more borrowing/ lending if you ring me on 0870 70 66 202"



More about Saving Resources & Making Valuable Connections:

For resources to be saved and valuable connections to be made in your area involves local people (eg you?) making the request to borrow something.

Using the freelender.org website, there are two ways to make the request. One is to search for something; the other is to add the item you want eg '**WANTED - lawnmower**' so that others can decide whether to lend theirs to you, or suggest another way to buy/share whatever you want. Please take a few moments to think how you could save money by just asking for something.

"If your preference is to borrow or lend without using any website that's fine, and I'll provide support for you to do more borrowing/ lending if you ring me on 0870 70 66 202"

Of course, if local people here are **too nervous or busy(?)** to offer to lend something, there will be nothing to borrow, other than what people elsewhere, like me, are willing to post or bring to you.

Is the idea of offering or asking to borrow of sufficient interest to you to give it a go?

- I look forward to seeing what you do with this opportunity; whether you take it or not.

Here's a couple more of the opportunities you have which might boost the quality of your life and connections with others:

1) If freelending doesn't appeal, you could offer to rent something on www.letsallshare.com and **earn money from the leisure equipment and other things that you don't use all the time.**

2) You could **offer your skills** (of which you have many more than you know) on www.justforthe loveofit.org

By the way, if you are having difficulty with anyone, my background is in **mediation** and other approaches which support people to sort out interpersonal issues.

(If you want to see my CV/portfolio before asking me for this help, it's at www.additionalinfo.blogspot.com)

I also provide (for free) ways for you to clarify on your own, what it is you need and how you might ask others: www.communicatingneeds.org.uk and www.apologyplus.org.uk

Whatever you want to ask me for, my number again: 0780 70 66 202.

Wishing you all the joy that sharing brings,

Paul Crosland

(Director of Mediation Support Ltd & co-director, Freelending Community Interest Company)

*The statement that '**You can borrow anything I own**' includes borrowing the freelender iPhone and using up to 30 minutes of phone time calling other mobile phones.

If you ask to borrow money, my reply is likely to be: *"Of course, and when I lend you money, I might ask for a deposit in cash of equal value."*

My aim is to encourage 'responsible lending' and to learn about the choices people make to share or not.

