

LeChéile Newsletter 2012



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Because of the times we live in, it is clear that we are all feeling the pinch as we "tighten our belts" yet again. The good news is that this recession will eventually pass. Let me reassure you that we will be doing our level best to provide you with support, guidance, and help in a confidential and understanding manner.

This is YOUR Credit Union and the Management and Staff are here to genuinely help YOU.

Máirín Ní Mhanacháin, President of the Board



WIN €50 VOUCHERS!!

When you visit your Credit Union next, you will be asked to confirm that we have the correct address and phone numbers for you. This is to ensure that we keep your contact details up to date.

As a thank you, we will be giving away several €50 Vouchers, and YOU MIGHT JUST BE THE NEXT LUCKY MEMBER!



COMMUNITY NEWS

Like many Credit Unions, St Jarlath's Credit Union was set up by good local people for the benefit of the local community. If you are involved in a community project be it sports, education, youth work, drama and so on, please talk to us as we are always interested in helping where we can.

We provide different levels of sponsorship to 70 or 80 local community events each year. And if a club, society or charity needs to borrow we have a reduced rate of 5.5% to ease the cost of finance.



LIFE SAVINGS INSURANCE

To be eligible for the savings insurance, a member must have an account opened before the age of 70. This cover is automatic on each account and is free of charge to eligible members. The maximum cover at present is €12,700. The actual amount of insurance benefit depends on members savings, withdrawals, and their age when they saved.

So for every €1 of a member's savings before the age of 55, this will give €1 of insurance. For every €1 saved between age 55 and 59, this will add 75 cent of insurance, between age 60 and 64 provides 50 cent of insurance, and for every €1 saved between age 65 and 69 it provides 25 cent of insurance. **Please note that this insurance "pays out" if you die after the age of 70, 90, or even 110!! Hence the benefit of leaving your savings intact.**

MANAGE YOUR MONEY

In Association with

The Tuam Herald

HERE ARE A FEW HANDY TIPS TO HELP STRETCH YOUR EUROS A BIT FURTHER



Do:-

- **Budget, Budget, Budget.....**
Know what comes in and control what goes out.
- **Plan your spending, and stick to it!**
- **Make a list.** "Decide in the store and you'll spend more!"
- **Review all Insurances,** every year. Big savings here.
- **Start Saving,** even a small amount, but save regularly.

Don't:-

- **Don't ignore the problems**
- **Don't use Credit Cards or Overdrafts to fund spending**
- **Don't impulse buy.** Wait for the sales – you will spend less.
- **Don't forget, It's good to talk** – the Credit Union is a good listener
- **Don't lose perspective, we are all facing challenges at the moment**



WE HAVE A NEW LOWER INTEREST RATE AVAILABLE

Many members are now taking advantage of our lowest interest rate yet. Instead of dipping into your savings, you can now borrow, up to the amount of your shares, at the new rate of 5.5%

For Example:-

Shares held of	€1005
Amount Borrowed	€1000
Repay €19.81 per week over one year	
Total interest paid only	€30.05



When we ask members why they like this option, the popular response is ***"It's easier to pay back a small loan than to rebuild my savings"***.

Call into any of our offices or contact us online at www.stjarlathscu.ie for Car loans, home improvement loans, farm finance and lots of other purposes including college fees, wedding expenses, credit card debt. Etc.

SCHOOLS QUIZ



The annual primary schools quiz, now in its 20th year is held every January in the Mercy Secondary school hall. St Patricks Primary school won at county level in February and got to the national final in the RDS, Dublin in April.

With the help of their teacher Aidan Burke, we hired a bus to bring the contestants, Sean O' Reilly, Michael Collins, Ciaran Burke & Joey Burke to the RDS. Big brother winner Brian Dowling was the quizmaster and was only delighted to take pictures with the lads and supporters! Over 100 teams took part and although St Pats didn't win, we had a fantastic day out.

Over 45 teams take part at local Credit Union level every year and we encourage all the primary schools within our common bond to take part.

CU FACTOR



Coming into its 3rd year, we have had so much fun with the CU Factor. A talent competition open to all ages, we got a great variety of talent auditioning over the last two years.

Acts auditioned in front of 3 judges in a local venue, where 8 acts made it through to the final this year. Two winners were picked to represent St Jarlath's Credit Union in the final in the town hall in Galway in May. Representing us was Shane Cunningham who is an impressionist, and a group of talented dancers 'Cosa Beoga'.

Acts from Credit Unions around the county took to the stage in the town hall and to our delight our 2 finalists came 1st and 2nd. Both acts collected a cash prize on the night and Shane won a perpetual cup which he will hold onto for the year. Well done Shane and Cosa Beoga!

YOUTH CORNER

POSTER COMPETITION



The Credit Union poster competition continues to be one of the most successful annual promotions undertaken by the credit union.

It is open to all ages and we get a wide variety of entries every year. Earlier this year Emily Flaherty from Tuam came 3rd overall in the over 18's special category at national level and got to meet Marty Whelan in Dublin, who presented her with her prize.

ONLINE LOAN APPLICATIONS

Applying for a Loan with St. Jarlath's Credit Union couldn't be easier. We have made your Credit Union more accessible and now you can log on to our website www.stjarlathscu.ie at a time that suits you and apply for a loan online. A member of our lending team will then contact you by phone or email with a quick answer. It couldn't be simpler, and we provide loans this way six days a week, all year.



TIPS ON HOW TO GET LOAN APPROVAL

- Build up a good savings record, by lodging a small amount each week or month.
- Set up a Standing Order to build up your savings level. It's also a handy way to make your loan payments.
- Establish a repayment record by borrowing against your share amount and repaying the agreed amount on time.
- Bring in details of your income. Wage/salary slips or P60 and 3 months bank statements.
- Loan approval can often be completed on the day and within 30 minutes of meeting the loans officer.

ATM

We now offer our members access to their money 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through our ATM facility located outside the main office in Tuam. Many members already use this service where their income is paid directly into their Credit Union account.

There is a daily withdrawal limit of €500. If you don't already hold an ATM card, any of our staff will be happy to arrange one for you.



- Tuam Head Office ☎ 093 246 45
Headford ☎ 093 358 16
Dunmore ☎ 093 383 30
Turloughmore ☎ 091 797 684
Corrandulla ☎ 091 789 581
Abbeyknockmoy ☎ 093 246 45

✉ info@stjarlathscu.ie 🌐 www.stjarlathscu.ie

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