



# LOCAL CONNECTIONS



**FUSION**

Credit Union Limited

*Serving the people of Lichfield District*

*The Fusion Credit Union Newsletter*

*Issue 9, 2010*

**Need A Loan?**

**A Year of Expansion**

# £30,000

## AVAILABLE FOR LOANS

Over this year loans have increased, but savings have risen more. One of Fusion's aims is to provide loans to members at reasonable rates so as to help them avoid high cost, pay day loans, doorstep lenders or loan sharks.

**£30,000 is now available for loans to members.**



- Interest 1% per month
- 12.68% APR
- No penalty for early repayment
- Initial loans from £50 to £500
- Subsequent loans up to £2,000
- Free life insurance

*President Pete Selwyn with the money*

Call into a collection point and fill in an application, or ring 01543 415032 to make an appointment with a member of the loan committee. You will only be offered a loan which you can afford to repay.

**New Telephone Number 01543 415032**

The main contact number for Fusion has been changed. Messages can be left when the offices are closed. The old number (01543 308223) is for the Old Mining College collection point in Chasetown.

## Fusion continues strong growth

Fusion has had a very successful year with outstanding growth in membership, savings and loans. The increase in membership during the last financial year was the best since the first year of operation. Membership stood at 425 at the end of September, an increase of 118 over the year. There has also been a significant increase in the number of volunteers. The administration, loan management, marketing and fundraising have all benefited from the availability of more hard working and enthusiastic volunteers.

More people in the district now avoid the problems of high cost debt as a result of being Fusion members.

## Spread the word, tell your friends about Fusion

### Wedding Bells



We have had a wedding to celebrate this summer. Tony and Hannah Cassidy were married at Lichfield Registry Office in June. They have been regular visitors to the collection point at Jigsaw on a Wednesday morning since joining Fusion in 2008. Hannah is a “Front of House” volunteer at Jigsaw. We wish them a long and happy marriage.

*Hannah & Tony on their wedding day*

### The Big Society

Recently the government has issued more details on the “Big Society” agenda. Among these is an intention to “support the creation and expansion of mutuals, co-operatives, charities and social enterprises, and support these groups to have much greater involvement in the running of public services.”

A Big Society Bank will be established using funds from dormant accounts. The bank will provide funds in the region of £60–100 million for projects with the monies coming from dormant accounts.

## Sponsorship



This issue of our Newsletter has a “mystery sponsor” (left) Do you know who it is?

**If you are a local business you can sponsor an issue of the Newsletter and get recognition here.**

**Call 01543415032**

## North Lichfield Initiative

We are very grateful to North Lichfield Initiative who have recently provided funds to support Fusion’s work in North Lichfield. The administration facilities at Edgeworth House have been upgraded thanks to the NLI grant.

The office has a new telephone system and internet connection. This has improved the service to members, for example by having a telephone line which is answered most working days of the week.

The direct internet connection has also enabled us to provide a new service where funds can now be transferred from members’ Fusion savings accounts directly to their bank accounts.

This has particularly helped members who have built up savings by Standing Order throughout the year, and can now have this quickly available for that all important Christmas shop.

## Mr Les Burgin



It is with great sadness that we record the recent death, at 97, of Fusion’s oldest member. Les Burgin joined Fusion on the opening of the collection point at Beacon Park Village where he was a resident. A native of Kings Norton, he served in the Royal Artillery, at Dunkirk, where he was wounded, and with the 8<sup>th</sup> Army in North Africa. He moved to Lichfield in the 1960’s and was well known in the area as a bowls player. Our sympathies go to his family and to his many friends at Beacon Park Village.

## Fusion Credit Union Collection Points

### Chasetown/Burntwood

The Old Mining College  
Chasetown, WS7 4QH

**Fridays:** 10.00am - 12.00 noon

### North Lichfield

Jigsaw, Dimbles Lane  
Lichfield,

**Wednesdays:** 10.00am - 12.00 noon  
**Saturdays:** 10.00am - 12.00 noon

### Lichfield City

CAB, Levetts Fields  
Lichfield, WS13 6HY

**Fridays:** 1.30pm - 3.30pm

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## Fusion Credit Union Contact Information

**Phone:** 01543 415032 07972 656182

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**e-mail:** [info@fusioncreditunion.co.uk](mailto:info@fusioncreditunion.co.uk)

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Please send any questions or comments to [info@fusioncreditunion.co.uk](mailto:info@fusioncreditunion.co.uk)

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**Board of Directors:** Peter Selwyn, President  
Valerie Wale, Vice President  
Janet Bamber, Treasurer  
Alison Readman, Secretary  
Tim Warner  
Jackie Whittenbury,  
Robin Taylor

**Supervisory Committee:** Dick Wingrove, Tony Kelly, Tony Wilkins

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