



LOCAL CONNECTIONS



FUSION

Credit Union Limited

The Fusion Credit Union Newsletter

Issue 14, 2013

Christmas is Coming

Will Writing Offer

Beat the Shark!



Over the summer, Fusion Credit Union ran a series of events across Cannock Chase and Lichfield to raise awareness of the dangers of borrowing from loan sharks and to publicise the advantages of joining Fusion Credit Union

Research shows that an estimated 310,000 households in the UK have turned to an illegal money lender. These 'Loan Sharks' have been known to charge interest at over 100,000%!! Whilst the number of men and number of women affected by loan sharks is virtually an even split (52% female, 48% Male), men are much less likely to report loan sharks.

Fusion's "Beat the Shark" events, in partnership with the England Illegal Money Lending Team, gave members of the public the chance to put on a pair of boxing gloves and throw punches at a 'shark' target on a punch bag.

All those who took part in "Beat the Shark" had great fun with many getting quite enthusiastic about it. One participant even went round to his friend's house and brought him along to "have a go" at the shark. Every participant was given a Fusion money box and some literature to encourage them to avoid loan sharks and join Fusion.



It's time to Save for Christmas ...

Now that the nights are drawing in, Christmas will soon be upon us.

We always encourage our members to start saving early for Christmas, either by paying a little more into your savings account, or if you don't want to be tempted to spend the savings before Christmas, opening a Fusion Christmas Savings account. Your savings will be 'locked in' until the end of November.



And best of all, your savings are completely safe as they are guaranteed by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Call into a collection point or phone us on **01543 415032** and ask for details.

... or take out an affordable Fusion Loan

If you want to spread the cost of Christmas, now is the time to be talking to Fusion about arranging a loan.

Unlike "loan sharks, or Payday loan companies, Fusion will only lend you what you can afford to repay. Our loan interest rate is still only 1% per month (APR 12.68%) which will save you a lot of money compared with payday loan companies such as Wonga who now quote a representative interest rate to 5853% APR.

Call into a collection point or phone us on **01543 415032** and ask for details.



Archbishop of Canterbury Encourages Parishioners to Support Credit Unions

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has called on church parishioners to lend a hand to credit unions in a bid to provide an alternative to payday lenders. He hopes that skilled churchgoers with financial experience will volunteer at their local credit union.



The Church of England's director of mission and public affairs, Malcolm Brown, said the aim was to encourage a more diverse financial sector. He said the archbishop, was interested in promoting credit unions because "they are an established route of access to finance".

"If we can develop the credit union sector that will widen the finance sector more generally." He added: "With a more diverse financial sector, there should be less need for payday lenders who extract exorbitant interest rates.

Special Introductory Offer for Fusion Members

Thomson Financial Solutions Ltd. (TFS) is offering all Fusion members:

- A single Will for £25.00 and a Mirror Will for £49.00.

They are also offering a free financial review to include over 50's Life Cover and also Pre Paid Funeral Plans, with no obligation. Any member taking a plan with TFS will receive their will completely free of charge!

Speak to Thomson Financial Solutions today:

- Tel: 01543-444485
- Mobile: 07770-750044
- Email: wills@thomson-fs.co.uk
- Website: www.thomson-fs.co.uk



Did you know...?

Junior Savers are eligible for a FREE piggy bank when they open an account.



Fusion Credit Union Collection Points

Cannock Chase

Civic Centre,
Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG

Mondays: 10.00 - 12.00

Chasetown/Burntwood

The Old Mining College
Chasetown, WS7 4QH

Wednesdays: 10.00 - 12.00

North Lichfield

Jigsaw, 72 Dimbles Lane
Lichfield, WS13 7HL

Wednesdays: 10.00 - 12.00

Saturdays: 10.00 - 12.00

Curborough Community Centre
Reynolds Close, Lichfield, WS13 7NY

Tuesdays 08:30 - 10:30

Lichfield City

CAB, Levetts Fields
Lichfield, WS13 6HY

Fridays: 13.30 - 15.30

Fusion Credit Union Contact Information

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Please send any questions or comments to info@fusioncreditunion.co.uk

Board of Directors: Janet Bamber, Maurice Keenan, Peter Selwyn,
Valerie Wale, Tim Warner

Supervisory Committee: Tony Kelly

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