

# The Loan Arranger



Proudly serving all residents, employees and worshipers in Hillingdon, Harrow, Ealing, Brent, Hounslow, Slough and South Bucks

Newsletter of Hillingdon Credit Union - Winter 2018/9 issue 5

## Common sense with money!

**M**ore and more members are enjoying the benefits of belonging to Hillingdon Credit Union, whether it is our very competitive loan rates, the great savings rate which this year is proposed to be **1.25%** or dealing with our friendly staff. Don't just take our word for it:

*"In all the years that my husband and I have been saving/borrowing from the credit union, they have never let us down. The Credit Union have helped us pay for countless holidays / spending money, no end of Christmas's, Birthdays, Weddings, Christenings etc. not to mention helping with the unexpected things in life: car breakdowns, bike breakdowns, appliance breakdowns.*

*Kathryn D – Spread the word!!*

Remember our only shareholders are our members, which means you and your community are in control. Our products and services are designed to help our members manage their money well and our profits are shared amongst our members with all profits remaining within the community



## Compensation Scheme

All our members' savings are protected up to £85,000. We have enclosed with this newsletter details of the current scheme. For further information visit [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk) or give us a call. Currently the maximum balance that can be held in our savings account is £52,000



## London Living Wage employer

As a socially responsible employer, we are delighted to announce we continue to meet the new "London Living Wage" of at least £10.55 per hour for all our staff. Vice President Lawrence Greenberg said "Our aim is to help people take control of their financial lives. We meet the moral standard of paying the London Living Wage to the lowest paid of our employees because it is the right thing to do and it helps them to remain in a financially good position."



## 2019 AGM

This year's AGM is set for 14th of February. You are welcome to attend, just let us know so we can ensure there is sufficient food! Full details are on the reverse of your annual statement. The board is recommending an annual dividend of **1.25%**, which if agreed at the AGM, will provide members with one of the highest returns available in the market for an instant access account. For the fifth year we are offering our dividend sacrifice scheme. Members are able to donate their dividend to our nominated charity, which this year will be Hillingdon Hospitals charity, which is also one of the Mayors target charities this year. If you wish to participate in this scheme just email your confirmation to [info@hillingdoncu.co.uk](mailto:info@hillingdoncu.co.uk) with the heading *Dividend Sacrifice* and quoting your name and address or membership number and we will do the rest for you.

## Meet Nigel White - New Director

My professional career has always been in IT, having been IT Director for three well known major construction companies. After retiring in July 2016, I have done some coaching/consultancy around Functional Management and Internal Politics, together with a colleague who specialises in psychometric profiling, helping individuals and organisations improve various situations.



As I no longer have to spend hours commuting to work, I am keen to use my time to do more locally and put something back into society. In addition to joining the board of the Credit Union in a voluntary capacity, I have also become a cycling instructor for the borough and an active member of the local U3A.

I am also a member of a livery company in the City of London – The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, in which we contribute our time and money to helping the homeless, assisting people transitioning their careers, in particular soldiers leaving the army and transitioning into civilian life, and sponsoring a technical school for children in Lambeth.

I have three grown up sons, one of whom lives in Sydney and has a young baby, so I also spend part of the year over there. I do the bookkeeping for two of their businesses – one here and one in Australia. The internet is a wonderful thing and there's not much of any of the above that I can't do whichever end of the world I happen to be in (except cycling instruction)!

## Director nominations

All members of Hillingdon Credit Union are entitled to put themselves forward to become a director, with the vote of approval being held at the AGM. All nominations must be in by 31<sup>st</sup> January. If you are interested, please contact Emma on 01895 250958 to request a nomination form.

# The Loan Arranger



## Our alternative to a Bank Account



Our Engage Classic Prepaid card is a low cost ethical Visa debit card. Easy to use in any high street shop or online where Visa cards are accepted. The card has many features including

- Unique UK sort code and account number
- Contactless – can be used on buses and tube
- Cashback rewards at many shops – see below for details
- UK call centre and mobile app
- Money Management budgeting tools
- No issue costs and no credit checks
- Ethical £2 per month fee – no load costs
- All members over 16 are guaranteed acceptance

See website for full details and application form

The account gives you cash discounts at many high street shops such as **Asda** 3%, **Argos** 4%, **M+S** 3.5% and many others. *For example if you spent £75 per week at Asda you would get £9 cash back per month or £108 per year!!*

### Did you know?

We issue a monthly “Did you know” newsletter by email.

If you do not receive this please drop us an email with either your name and member number or full address to:

[Hillingdon.cu@gmail.com](mailto:Hillingdon.cu@gmail.com)

and we will ensure you are added to the mailing list. Also ensure you add this email address to your contacts to ensure our emails do not end up in your spam folder

## Loan Sharks

This time of year Loan Sharks are more active than ever. Help stop this illegal activity. Report any activity to the help line – this can be on a confidential

basis. Remember

if you have borrowed from a Shark you have NOT committed a crime and you do not have to pay the loan back!!



## Breaking News

As we go to press, it has been confirmed that we helped more members than ever before in the month of November – 235 loans were granted with balances in excess of £171,000, allowing substantial interest savings against loans available elsewhere

## Data Protection

Significant changes have been introduced to data protection

legislation – often known as GDPR. We have conducted a full review of the way we both collect and store data



about members. The idea is to ensure we only gather information that is essential for the purpose of running your account and that you have the right to check and correct information if necessary. We do not sell your information to third parties and where we do share with bodies such as credit reference agencies that they in turn do not pass on the information.

## Protect yourself from fraud

If anyone contacts you claiming to be us and asking for passwords or pins, or to move money between accounts, it might be fraud. We will never ask you for these things. Don't give out your details or make payments unless you know who you're dealing with. If you're ever in doubt, just give us a call.

- Don't assume a text, phone call or email from someone claiming to be your bank is genuine. If you're not sure, call us!
- Never tell anyone your security details (pin or password) – a real bank will never ask for this
- Don't give out your account details or make payments unless you're sure of whom you're dealing with
- Don't panic, and don't let yourself be pressured into action

## Word Search

Find the words below in this grid. They may be the right way round, backwards or diagonal, but they are all in there somewhere. Words in the list divided with a bar (|) are found separately in the grid

C	R	E	D	I	T	U	N	I	O	N	T
O	E	M	E	T	N	O	M	M	O	C	N
M	B	A	P	R	B	O	N	D	C	O	E
M	M	E	O	I	E	X	G	Y	A	A	V
U	E	R	S	P	T	N	N	C	R	T	E
N	M	D	I	V	I	D	E	N	D	S	L
I	L	L	T	L	S	D	W	E	S	E	A
T	O	L	L	T	B	L	C	G	E	R	I
Y	O	I	O	I	E	I	A	A	R	E	C
A	H	B	A	D	W	H	R	R	A	T	E
W	C	T	N	U	O	C	C	A	H	N	P
A	S	Q	S	A	V	I	N	G	S	I	S

ACCOUNT – AGENCY – AUDIT – CARDS -COMMON | BOND – COMMUNITY – CHILD - **CREDIT UNION** – DEPOSIT – DREAM – DIVIDEND - GARAGE | BILL – HILLINGDON - INTEREST | RATE – LOANS – MEMBER - NEW CAR – SAVINGS -SCHOOL | COATS – SHARES - SPECIAL EVENT - TRIP | AWAY - WEB SITE

You can contact us in the following ways:

Visit/post: Hillingdon Credit Union

CR1 Civic Centre, High St,  
Uxbridge UB8 1UW

Email: [info@hillingdoncu.co.uk](mailto:info@hillingdoncu.co.uk)

Web site [www.hillingdoncu.co.uk](http://www.hillingdoncu.co.uk)

Phone: 01895 250958

• Monday to Friday 10am to 3 pm