

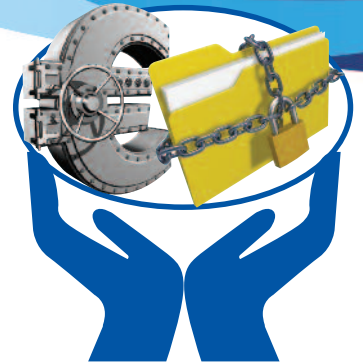


Swords & District Credit Union

Growing with the Community
Spring 2009

NEWS

YOUR MONEY AND INFORMATION IS SAFE IN OUR HANDS

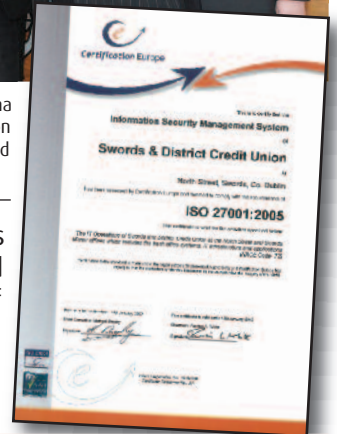


With the recent turmoil in the financial markets and the government bailing out the banks, Swords & District Credit Union Limited is pleased to announce that your money and information is safe in our hands.

The Credit Union's Directors, Management and Staff are continually looking at ways to safe guard members' savings and information. We are pleased to announce that we have become the **first financial institution in Dublin and only the second in Ireland to achieve the prestigious international recognised ISO 27001 certification - Information Security Management Systems**. Members can feel confident that their personal information and savings are secure. In an era when stories of lost data seem increasingly regular, the standards at Swords & District Credit Union now stand peerless among financial institutions in Ireland, and this award should reassure all our members that their information is totally safe.



Trisha Bulman - Assistant Manager, Mick McKenna - Board Director, Michael Brophy - Certification Europe, Fiona Cunningham - Manager and Ted Tanase - Wellington Computer Systems.



President of the Credit Union, Brian Lally, said at the award ceremony: "We are pleased to have attained this certification for Swords Credit Union as a whole; we have no doubt but that the members

(present and future) will see this as a further testament and commitment to them. On behalf of the Board, I congratulate the Project team for their wonderful work."

Win a €100 voucher

Have your photo taken and enter our draw

With your photo on our system your account will be more secure. Just bring along a current passport or driving licence

Swords & District Credit Union
www.swordscu.ie

ARE YOU AWARE OF IDENTITY FRAUD?

Swords & District Credit Union would urge all members to get their picture taken the next time you visit the office. Having your picture taken acts as an extra level of security for you and your Credit Union account. It also ensures that no-one but you gains access to your account. **The Board of Directors have decided that your photo MUST be taken (if it's not already on your account) when you collect or apply for a loan.**



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

The next time you visit the Credit Union bring your Credit Union book and photo ID with you (e.g. a valid passport, drivers licence or Garda ID) and ask a member of staff to take your picture (it only take a few seconds). Once your picture is taken, it is automatically attached to your Credit Union account to keep your money safe and remains on your account.



Phone In

Log In

Drop In

www.swordscu.ie

Lets CU @ Swords CU

Growing with the Community



Whilst there has been considerable uncertainty in the financial services industry in the last few months, it is important members feel re-assured that savings in Swords & District Credit Union continue to be very well managed. In addition to the Government's guarantee Deposit Savings Scheme of €100,000 for each individual credit union member, Swords & District Credit Union members are also covered by the Irish league of Credit Union savings protection scheme which has funds in excess of €110 million

Swords & District Credit Union like all organisations have to ensure that they remain viable in this current climate. With the ever changing needs of our members and the economic pressures facing us all we too have to make some changes in opening hours (see back page) and operational efficiencies.

The success of your Credit Union over the past 39 years has ensured that it continues to be well placed to provide for your financial needs in these challenging times in a professional, personal, positive and confidential way.

Swords & District Credit Union remains the very best place for people to save and to borrow.

Swords CU STATS

Members:

13,000

Assets:

€42 million

Loans:

€28 million

What makes YOUR Credit Union different

- OUR Credit Union works in co-operation with the local community.
- OUR Credit Union aims to make the lives of members, our families and our communities better, by gaining financial independence through access to financial services products
- OUR membership is limited to our common bond;
- OUR governance is based on one member, one vote;
- OUR Credit Union is a 'not-for-profit' financial co-operative – we have no vested interest other than serving our members.
- **Swords & District Credit Union** operate in a cautious manner, maintaining a Statutory reserve in addition to a general reserve and a provision for bad / doubtful debts.
- **Swords & District Credit Union** has no exposure to wholesale markets, as would be the case with some banks. All loans to members are funded from member savings.
- **Swords & District Credit Union** member's savings/ deposits, up to a maximum of **€100,000**, are guaranteed by the Government's Deposit Savings Scheme. In addition to this, all members are covered by the ILCU savings protection scheme
- **Swords & District Credit Union** is compliant with the directives issued by the regulator's Registrar of Credit Unions and support the role of the Financial Regulator.
- **Swords & District Credit Union** is an independent incorporated entity owned by our members and are not exposed to the performance of any other credit union.
- Life Savings and Loan Protection insurance cover is provided **free of charge** for members.
- **Swords & District Credit Union** utilise unpaid volunteers as Directors and Supervisors.

ARE YOU A MEMBER? WHY NOT JOIN OR SWITCH TODAY



MEMBERS' INFORMATION PACK

An information pack is available from either office for members and potential members. Just ask a member of staff or Phone In, Drop In or Log In for your copy

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO JOIN?

Joining checklist:

- Photo ID (current passport/driving licence)
- Proof of address (bank statement/utility bill dated within the last 3 months)
- PPSN (personal public service) anyone joining the Credit Union from the 1st January 2009 will be required to provide evidence of their PPSN. Please note this includes minor accounts
- €1 membership fee + €5 minimum for saving



Phone In



Log In




Drop In

www.swordscu.ie

Lets CU @ Swords CU

Loans @ Swords CU

There has never been a better time to borrow from your Credit Union. Why?

- **Great Car Loan rate of 6.99%** (7.2%apr)
- **Holiday/General Loan Rate 9.8%** (10.2%apr)
- **Covered Loans 5.99%** (6.16%apr) 

Why Borrow from Swords CU

- ✓ Interest is calculated on the reducing balance, which means you only pay interest on what you owe
- ✓ Interest Rate will not be increased
- ✓ There are no penalties or charges for clearing the loan earlier than agreed
- ✓ No charges or fees
- ✓ Easy application process and speedy decisions
- ✓ Phone-a-loan **1890 796 737** (1890 SWORDS)



With the Credit Union the quicker you **PAY OFF** your loan, the less interest you pay

YOUR MONEY IS SAFE IN OUR HANDS



The staff of Swords & District Credit Union are committed to serving the members and are currently pursuing the QFA qualification.

The QFA Diploma is a joint venture between LIA, The Insurance Institute of Ireland and The Institute of Bankers in Ireland, the QFA course leads to the designation Qualified Financial Adviser - QFA on successful completion of all six modules.

The modules are:

- QFA Life Assurance
- QFA Pensions
- QFA Investment
- QFA Loans
- QFA Regulation
- QFA Financial Planning

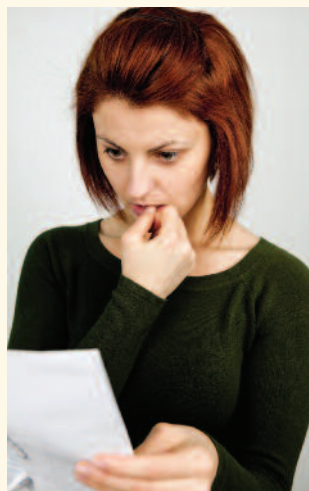
Best of luck to all Staff who have begun the QFA process.



ACCOUNTS IN ARREARS

Members if you are experiencing financial problems or you are having difficulties in regard to your loan repayments, please contact the Credit Union as soon as possible.

You will be guaranteed a sympathetic hearing. The worst thing you can do is ignore the problem, as this could eventually lead to legal action being taken against you. If for any reason you are going away for a period of time or you are out of work please contact us as soon as



possible so that we can come to some mutually acceptable agreement.

Once again the Credit Union would urge all members not to ignore any financial difficulties that you may be experiencing. Please note; member accounts written off maybe subject to recovery of (in addition to loan principal) legal fees and continuing accrued interest.

If you find yourself in debt

- **DON'T PANIC**
- **Do not ignore the problem; it will not go away**
- **Take immediate action**
- **Contact us**

Our Credit Controller is Ann Hogan **8908481**

Email: ann@swordsCU.ie

Swords CU are here to help , please make the call, we will do what we can

Swords & District Credit Union are now members of the Irish Credit Bureau

SERVICES

Check out our services in addition to the Share Account (Savings) we have

- ✓ **CUCASH** deposit account earning 1% (EAR), interest added monthly, withdrawals on demand
- ✓ **CUMONEYCARD** – ATM facility, **access your money 24/7** from over 4,000 ATM's nationwide, government levy applies
- ✓ **CUONLINE services**, **access your account 24/7** – this service includes bill payment online, transfer funds to and from the Credit Union, check balances, apply for a loan, for more information visit www.swordscu.ie
- ✓ **Direct Debit Facility** – set up a direct debit to pay off your loan or save regularly
- ✓ **Paypath Salary Scheme**, members can save through their payroll department, salary (or part of salary) can be paid directly into member's Credit Union account
- ✓ **E-cheque** – have your money paid directly into your bank or building society account, no more waiting on cheques to clear
- ✓ **Bill payments** (no charges), Household bills can be paid at either office
- ✓ **Bureau de Change** for all your foreign currency
- ✓ **Annual Multi-trip travel Insurance**
- ✓ **Home, Car and Health Insurance**
- ✓ **Death Benefit Insurance**
- ✓ **plus many, many more...**

***Terms and conditions apply*



Recent Prize Winners

Green survey/questionnaire winner: Helen Ryan
AGM survey/questionnaire winner Maria Murphy

School Quiz Winners

Top: St. Cronan's N.S. Winners under 11 years
 Bottom: St. Cronan's N.S. Winners under 13 years

OPENING HOURS FROM 8TH MAY 2009

NORTH STREET

MONDAY	9.30am – 5.00pm
TUESDAY	9.30am – 5.00pm
WEDNESDAY	9.30am – 5.00pm
THURSDAY	9.30am – 5.00pm
FRIDAY	9.30am – 8.00pm
SATURDAY	9.30am – 12.30pm

MANOR OFFICE

MONDAY	Closed
TUESDAY	Closed
WEDNESDAY	Closed
THURSDAY	Closed
FRIDAY	3.00pm – 8.00pm
SATURDAY	10.00am – 12.30pm

Please note change in Manor Office opening hours

CARS & CASH MEMBERS DRAW

Swords & District Credit Union hold a Members Draw and every member over 18 years can enter.

Car Draw winners for the first quarter of 2009 with €45,000 worth of prizes were:

The winner of the fabulous Ford Focus 1.8 5 door was: Lorraine Callinan.

The **3 winners of €5,000** were Tom Kennedy, Elaine Mazbouh, Brian Kavanagh and the **8 winners of €1,000** were David Tierney, Angela Harford, Ted O'Kane, Rosemarie Meehan, Lorentta Omorowa, Eileen Kavanagh, Carol Nevin and William Heffernan.

Why not join today for our next draw?



Quick Quiz

- How many financial institutions in Ireland have achieved the ISO 27001 certification? _____
- What is the covered loan rate? _____
- Is the Credit Union covered by the governments guarantee scheme of €100,000? _____

Name:

Address:

Credit Union Account No. Telephone No:

1st Prize €100 • 2nd Prize €75 • 3rd Prize €50

Terms and conditions apply: Answer the 3 questions, enter your correct details and post or hand in the completed form to either office. Closing date: 24th April. Draw open to Members only. One entry per Member. Decision of the Board of Directors shall be final as the winning entries

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 e-mail: info@swordscu.ie web: www.swordscu.ie



Phone In Log In Drop In

Check out our website - www.swordscu.ie

Swords & District Credit Union Limited is regulated by the Financial Regulator