

NEWSLETTER

October 2013

Hastings & Rother Credit Union Ltd
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A Savings and Loans Mutual Society

Annual Statement

Your annual statement is included with this Newsletter. If you have any queries about it, don't hesitate to contact us by phone or email.

Change to Town Centre Information Point

Following the uncertainty over the future of Hastings Trust, our Town Centre Information Point will be moving to the Community Contact Centre in the Town Hall from 18th October from 2pm—4pm every Friday.

We've been at Hastings Trust for more than 10 years and everybody there has always been very supportive. We'd like to thank Hastings Council for offering us space in the very busy Contact Centre. The Monday Information Point will continue at Hastings Trust for the time being. Details overleaf.



Tilling Green information Point

With financial support from Rye Town Council and NPower Wind Farm Fund, we have been operating an Information Point at the Tilling Green Community Centre in Rye since July with a number of local volunteers. The Mayor of Rye called in to give it his official seal of approval. It is open from 10am—12 noon every Thursday. (pictured are Cllr Shaun Rogers (Mayor) with 3 of our volunteers.

Working with the Church of England

In July the Archbishop of Canterbury hit the headlines with his call to drive payday loan companies out of business by supporting credit unions as an alternative source of funding at reasonable interest rates. He said: "**the Church must be actively involved in supporting the development of real lending alternatives, such as credit unions.**" This has been followed up with some excellent articles at www.churchofengland.org We had a very useful meeting with the Bishop of Chichester's policy adviser, Anthony Speca, recently in which we explored ways in which the Church and its members could support Hastings & Rother Credit Union both financially and by volunteering to spread the word in their parishes. We will keep you informed as this progresses. Why not get your church involved? We'd be happy to come and talk to them.



A Christmas Loan?

Now summer's over it's time to start thinking about Christmas. How will you pay for it this year? Why not take out a Credit Union loan to help you? Full details and forms are on our website www.hrcu.org.uk. To be sure of getting the money in time, we need to receive forms by 30th November. The usual conditions apply so you will need to have saved for at least 13 weeks.

If you want to pay into your account by cheque from a third party, it must be made payable to **Hastings & Rother Credit Union Ltd**, with your membership number on the back. You cannot change the name of the payee on a cheque and just countersign it.

Main Supporters: East Sussex County Council, Magdalen & Lasher Charity, Sussex Community Foundation, Orbit South and AmicusHorizon Housing Associations, St Vincent's Family Housing Association, Rye Town Council and Hastings Borough Council.
Regulated by The Financial Conduct Authority and The Prudential Regulation Authority Number 213644

Members' Lottery

37 lucky members have won prizes in our Members' Lottery since it started a year ago. It has also raised funds to help us keep the Credit Union running. If you haven't already signed up, then why not do so using the form below?



Full details are on the website www.hrcu.org.uk

Save for School Uniforms

If you have a child in their final year at primary school, in a year's time they will be moving to a secondary school which will mean a complete new uniform and gym gear as well as other expenses. The bill may well come to over £150. Have you thought how you will afford it? If you start saving a little regularly now this should be readily affordable. Don't wait until it's too late and you can't find the money, start saving now.



The pre-paid debit card has proved very popular with a lot of members. It makes it much easier to access the money in savings and loans accounts. You need a mobile phone to receive texts to use the card. Make sure you let us know if you change your mobile number. To start up the card, you will need at least £7.50 in your credit union account. We will text you if we cannot process your application.

Cards can only be loaded by phoning or emailing the office and transferring money from your credit union account. We will text you confirmation when it is done. You cannot load it remotely (e.g. at a Post Office). You do not need to load the full balance on your account. If a loan is approved, this can also be loaded onto your card. You can pay many bills (e.g. gas and electricity, TV licence, etc.) by direct debit using your card. This may reduce the costs.

Are my savings safe with the Credit Union?

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) which can pay compensation to depositors if a credit union is unable to meet its financial obligations. Most depositors are covered by the scheme. An eligible depositor is entitled to claim up to £85,000. For joint accounts each account holder has a claim in respect of their share so, for a joint account held by two eligible depositors, the maximum amount that could be claimed would be £85,000 each (a total of £170,000). The £85,000 limit relates to the combined amount in all the eligible depositor's accounts with the credit union, including their share of any joint account and not to each separate account.

For further information about the scheme (including the amounts covered and eligibility to claim) contact us.

INFORMATION POINTS

Hastings Trust

35 Robertson Street, Hastings
Mondays 11am to 12 noon

Community Advice Hub

Renaissance House, London Road, St Leonards
Wednesdays 2pm - 3pm

Tilling Green Community Centre

Mason Road, Rye TN31 7BE
Thursdays 10:00 - 12:00

Hollington Youth & Community Centre

1 Wishing Tree Road North
Thursdays + Fridays 8pm to 9pm

Community Contact Centre

Town Hall, Queen's Square, Hastings
Fridays 2pm—4pm

Hastings & Rother Credit Union Ltd—Members' Lottery

I (print name) membership number wish to purchase tickets each month at £1 per ticket for the above lottery starting from the(month) draw and continuing until I give notice in writing (email will be accepted). I agree to abide by the rules as published.

Signed Date