

EKCU NEWSLETTER

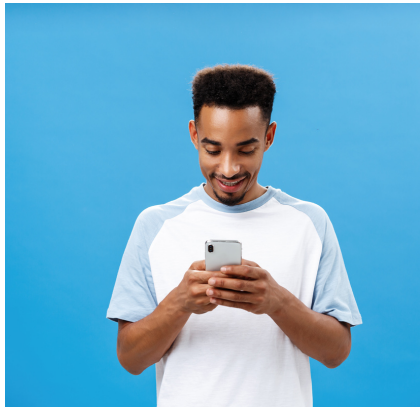
Issue 24 Spring 2024

Coming Soon

IT'S FINALLY "APP"ENING

Our New App Coming Soon

Firstly, we would like to thank our members for their patience and understanding over the last 8 months. Unfortunately due to technical issues we



were unable to fix our old App, however, we are happy to announce that we have been working hard behind the scenes creating a NEW and IMPROVED App. We hope this will be more user friendly, efficient and eradicate any past issues that our old App had. We will launch our App in stages to batches of our members to ensure no technical issues occur so please stay tuned for updates. We hope to have the App fully up and running to all members within the first half of this year.

DIGITAL SIGNATURES

Sign your loan from your home!

We will shortly be introducing digital signatures to make borrowing from EKCU even quicker and easier.



This new service will allow you to sign your loan paperwork electronically from the comfort of your own home. Keep an eye out for updates!

BOOST YOUR CREDIT SCORE

We recently informed all members that we now share information regarding lending with Equifax. Sharing this information allows us to make better and more informed lending decisions.

This means that your payment history with EKCU will now contribute towards your credit score.*

We hope to introduce a new loan product very soon that is aimed at helping members build their score.

*Non-payment will be reported and may adversely affect your credit score.

CHRISTMAS SAVE AND BORROW

It may feel that Christmas has only just been and gone, but we are 3 months into the year already! If you felt that Christmas 2023 had a big impact on your finances, why not join our Christmas Savings Club? You can save in this account all year round, the money is locked in until 1st November and withdrawable until the 31st December.

OR alternatively, you could stretch your savings even further with a Christmas Save & Borrow Loan! Save a minimum of £40 per month from April - November 2024 and you could apply to borrow £1000 from November 2024. Repay this at £89 per month for 12 months at 12.7% APR and have it cleared in time for Christmas 2025. Lending criteria applies and no loan is guaranteed.

To open a Christmas Savings Account you can call into the office or phone and speak to a member of our team on 01355 224771.



WWW.EKCCREDITUNION.CO.UK

AUTHORISED BY THE PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY AND REGULATED BY THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY AND THE PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY - REGISTRATION NUMBER 213849

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It is that time of year again- our AGM! It will be held in the Old Parish Church Hall next to the Montgomery Arms in the East Kilbride Village, at 7pm on Wednesday 6 March.

If you have never been to one of our AGM's or don't really know what it involves, here is a breakdown of what happens-

- You will meet the EKCUC team.
- You will meet our Board of Directors .
- Our Chairperson will discuss the previous years accounts .
- You will have an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions.
- Any new Board members will be sworn on to the EKCUC Board.
- Drinks and snacks provided.



**YOU'RE
INVITED!**

We hope to see you there!

BANK CHARGES CAUSED BY DEBIT CARD PAYMENTS

Each time we receive a payment via Card, over the phone, in office or via your online account, we are charged transactional fees by our third party payment provider. As we are a not-for-profit business, we try to keep our outgoing costs as low as possible to allow us to use any surplus at the end of the year to improve services or pay dividends to our members.

The easiest way to help us reduce these costs is to switch your payments to bank transfer- it is quicker, easier and free! Just log on to your online banking and use the bank details below.

Sort Code: **80-54-01**

Account Number: **10252865**

Reference: **Member number and Surname.**

If you have any queries about setting up a standing order or bank transfer, call us on 01355 224771 or email us at info@ekcreditunion.co.uk.

Loan payments should always be made via standing order or payroll deduction.

Avondale Radio

Did you catch our segment on Avondale Radio on 13 November 2023? Our very own Operations Manager Louise Smith and Chairman Stephen Sherriff discussed the benefits of being a member of a Credit Union and shared their experiences of working with EKC. Thanks to Les Hogan for having us!



School Savers

We have been asked recently to make some visits to local Primary schools that are keen to start a credit union collection for the pupils. We will be working along side the pupils to help them set up a collection within the school to help them get into the habit of saving for the future.

Credit Unions benefits for children:

- **Helps build numeracy skills.**
- **Shows them how to manage their money responsibly.**
- **They can save as little or as much as they wish.**
- **They can continue to save in the same account when they transfer to an adult account at the age of 18.**



If anyone else is interested in a school collection, please contact info@ekcreditunion.co.uk in the first instance.

Employer Payroll Scheme



We offer a service called payroll deduction where a business can set up salary sacrifice for their staff to save directly from their wages. Helping staff to save, and borrow when necessary, with the facility to do so directly from their employer payroll is a great way to help the financial needs of your employees and is so easy to set up.

Payroll saving is a very simple process that can have extremely positive benefits for employees, making them happier and more productive at work with less stress about their finances. If you are interested in enrolling your business in this scheme, or think your employer would be interested, email us at info@ekcreditunion.co.uk

Go James!



Not many of our members know our volunteer teller, James McLaughlin, is also a professional Snooker Referee! James was invited to the World Snooker Federation Championship this year which was held in Golem, Albania to be their official Referee! Our team decided to give James a send off in our office with snooker themed decorations and costumes. We are very proud of James, well done!

Summer Loan Sale

Do you have a summer holiday approaching and need extra spending money? Maybe you have found a last minute deal but need help paying it up? Why not consider a Holiday loan with EKC?

- **Valid on all NEW loan applications made from 4 March until 31 August.**
- **Borrow between £1000 and £4999, repayable over 12-36 months by standing order or payroll deduction.***
- **Up to 2 x your share balance**
- **Charged at 12.7% APR**



*Terms and conditions & our usual lending criteria apply. No loan is guaranteed.

Supporting our Community

Spirit of Christmas Appeal

We were blown away by the generosity of our members who kindly donated a massive **£1990** to the Woman's Aid Spirit of Christmas Appeal.



This money was used to buy gift cards which were then given to families who Woman's Aid support. These gift cards were used to help buy Christmas gifts for the families in need. Thank you to each and everyone of you who donated, you helped make someone's Christmas very special!

School Uniforms

We still have school uniforms available in our office for anyone who requires extra pieces for their children.



We have various sizes and items, they are free and can be picked up in our front office. Uniforms will be available until the 29th of March, we will donate them to our local schools and charities after this date.

Loaves and Fishes

Our team at EKCUCU will be volunteering at our local foodbank- Loaves and Fishes, on the 13th and 14th of March! If you wish to make a donation such as food, clothing, toiletries or money, please bring it into our office before these dates and we can deliver it directly to the foodbank.



Honorarium Gift

Our Board of Directors generously granted two local charities £550 each as an honorarium gift. The EK Dementia Carers Group and Woman's Aid are two wonderful organisations who support many within our community, we hope this gift will allow them to continue their great work.



HAVE YOUR SAY!

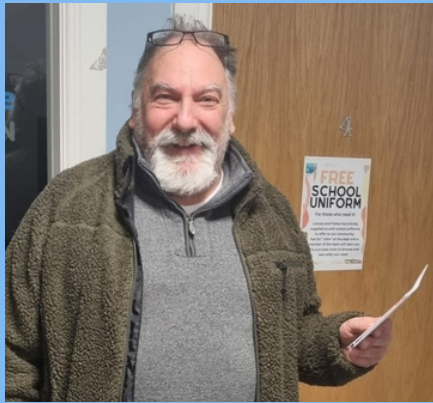
WHICH CHARITY SHOULD WE SUPPORT NEXT?
EMAIL US AT INFO@EKCREDITUNION.CO.UK AND TELL US
WHICH CHARITY YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SUPPORT AND WHY
AND WE WILL CONSIDER THEM FOR OUR NEXT FUNDRAISER.



Ensure you use the correct reference when making payments via Standing Order or Bank Transfer. Your reference is your member number followed by your last name!

New Joiner Competition

Between the 1st of November and 31st of December we ran a competition for all new members to be entered into a prize draw to win a £100 One4All voucher.



Our winner was selected at random and it was Robert Coulter! Congratulations Robert, we hope you will have a long and prosperous journey with EKC!

Valentine's Competition

For Valentines Day this year we had a competition on our social media for you to tell us what you love about EKC to win a £25 Odeon Cinema voucher! Our winner was Donna Buchanan and what she loves about EKC is **"how easy it is to access your account via online but also lovely staff on hand to help in office if you need to go in. Also looking to set up the Christmas savings account hopefully so will help come November"**. Congratulations Donna, keep an eye on our social media for our future competitions, next time it could be you!



Review to Win

We recently sent email and social media invitations to our members throughout January and February inviting them to review EKC by completing an online survey. By completing this survey members were entered into a prize draw to win a £50 gift voucher. Our winner was selected at random on 1st of March and it was Diane Bermingham, congratulations!

Thank you to all members who took the time to complete the survey and give us your feedback. This is invaluable and helps us to develop EKC by understanding what you want and need.



Take Part in Our Social Media

If you don't follow us already on social media, find us on **Instagram, Facebook, X** and **TikTok** to give us a like and follow! This is where we post all of our updates, events and competitions. We upload informative posts, however we also post fun and personal videos, so our members can meet us and feel like they already know us before they step into our office. We are always looking for ideas for our social media content, and would love to hear from our members on what they would like to see! Contact us by emailing info@ekcreditunion.co.uk with your ideas. Or if you would like to appear on our TikTok, we would love to film some members testimonials! Get in touch!



CONNECT WITH US

@EASTKILBRIDECREDITUNION | @EKC82

43 Brouster Hill, East Kilbride, G74 1AG

01355 224771

info@ekcreditunion.co.uk

