

1968



1993

East Wall Credit Union



25th
Anniversary

Chairman's Address

By Richard Hynes

Dear Member,

East Wall Credit Union has been one of the great success stories in the East Wall and North strand area over the past 25 years. A dedicated group of people saw the need for a Credit Union. People were encouraged to become shareholders and have some control over their own destiny.

For me, as Chairman, it has been a pleasure and experience to work with the present Board of Directors, Office Manager, Supervisors and helpers. The highlight of my time on the Board has been the building of the new offices, the new function room and the variety concert that was organised and sponsored by the Credit Union in 1988, with the money received going to local charities.

The introduction of the Home Union Insurance Scheme, a new initiative, has been a great benefit to our members.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all our members for their support over the last 25 years. May the Credit Union go from strength to strength in the future.



● Front Left to Right: E. Muldowney, Marion McLoughlin, Agnes Banks, Molly Feeney
 Back: Tony Manning, Harry Leighton, Paddy Gleeson, Dolores Steele, Tommy Doyle, Helen Murray, Jim Manning, Tom Broderick, Richard Hynes.



● Harry Leighton, Tony Manning, Helen Murray, Paddy Gleeson, Tom Broderick, E. Muldowney, Barry Eyre, Dolores Steele, marion McLoughlin, Agnes Banks, Molly Feeney, Jim Manning, Tommy Doyle.



East Wall Credit Union Ltd. *The beginning...*

In 1968, Father Con McGillicuddy, who, at the time, was a curate in St. Joseph's Church, felt there was a need for a Credit Union and from this group the first Board of Directors was made up.

That the venture was a success from the start is due to the hard work of all concerned, but especially to the dedication of the late Tommy Fleming and the late Christy Elliot.

With the co-operation of the local clergy business was at first conducted in a room in the boys school, St. Mary's Road (now the Community Centre). Later, to facilitate members in the North Strand area, another office was opened in the Church of Ireland School, Waterloo Avenue. Then, in June 1971, the Credit Union opened its own premises, a pre-fab building on Church Road.

Today the Credit Union is housed in the old Seaview Club which was derelict and which the Credit Union bought and reconstructed. The pre-fab building has gone, and in its place stands the function room which, as its name implies, is used for functions and meetings.

Having started with a membership of 160 persons, the number is now well over 2,000 and the original share capital of £160 has grown to over £1,500,000.

Despite all the changes during the years and further ones to come with computerisation, we in the East Wall Credit Union strive to live up to the philosophy "Not for profit, not for charity, but for service" and to promote the ideal of self-help and thrift in our community.

Reminiscences

By Monica Ryan

I remember the early days of the Credit Union very well. When we started there were the sceptics who thought the idea would not work. Who in this group knew anything about banking or accounting, or even had a bank account?

Well, we had to learn and we did this by various means and by trial and error. We started with a study group, instructed by Mr William Bradshaw, from Castle Credit Union (Lever Bros.) and eventually we had enough confidence to open for business.

We attended seminars and workshops to further our education in credit unionism and by talking to other credit union people we gained vast knowledge. Here I would like to pay tribute to Miss Kathleen Matthews, Premier Navan Road Credit Union, who was always ready and willing to come to us and pass on her expertise. We owe her and all those who helped us in those early days a huge debt of gratitude.

Going back over the records brings to mind many hurdles we had to get over – decimalisation and two bank strikes were some of them.

During my years as treasurer, before I retired in 1979, we had put in a lot of hard work, all the time learning as we went along. It was that work and the dedicated people who helped to carry it out that has made East Wall Credit Union the success it is today. I am happy to be still associated with it and I wish it continued success in the future.

The 1st Board of Directors and Supervisors

Thomas Seery • Thomas Fleming

Helen Murray • Patrick Blood

Patrick Byrne • Gerald Byrne

Mrs Monica Ryan • Mrs Shiels

Mrs Carey • Thomas Borderick

Mrs Molly Feeney • Mattie Malone

Mrs Mary Phillips • Christy Elliot

Seamus Murphy • Jim Russell

John Duffy • Joe Harwood

Mrs Marie Conway (now Whelan) • Des O'Brien



Left to Right: Mr William Bradshaw, Mrs Monica Ryan, Ms Marion McLoughlin



Left to Right: Mrs Anne Forde, Mrs Mgt. O'Reilly, Mr Richard Hynes (Member No.1)

Millennium

By Helen Murray

In 1988 the lure of the floodlights and the smell of the greasepaint was experienced by East Wall Credit Union and we went into Show Biz.

As our contribution to the Millennium Year it was decided to stage a concert. Many enthusiastic Thespians were recruited (some enlisted voluntarily) and their talents were put to good use. Months of hard work followed and on the 9th December 1988 the curtain rose on a spectacular show.

There was a nicely balanced fare of music, song, dance and comedy. The folk group and younger members of the cast brought back memories with their Rock and Roll routines. Excerpts from South Pacific were well selected. 'Honey Bun' was ably performed by Laura Eyre, with the delectable Liam Dunne as the dusky maiden! The ladies of the chorus 'washed that man right of their hair' thoroughly and completely, and the men left us in no doubt that 'there's nothing like a dame!' Quite a few queens of drag were discovered from the North Strand area and Tom McGeown was absolutely scintillating as a ballerina.

A special memory for us here in the credit union is the fine singing of our late supervisor, Paddy Dorman.

The show ran for 3 nights and the proceeds were shared between different parish charities. Direction and choreography was carried out by Imelda Fox, music was arranged and performed by Jenny Daly and Margaret Kelly was Wardrobe mistress. These ladies and many other back stage helpers gave freely of their time and deserve a standing ovation. The camaraderie which existed between all the players, young and old and the enthusiasm with which the project was taken hold of was evident in the professionalism of the staged event. It is something to remember.

Despite the fact that offers flowed in from Hollywood and London it speaks well for East Wall Credit Union that most of the performers stayed with us!

Last year saw the start of our participation in the Credit Union Inter Primary School Quiz. A team from St. Joseph's Co-ed Primary School reached the area final. Congratulations to all who took part and we look forward to next years contest.



● The company in concert



● Dolores Steele and Marie Broderick sharing a joke

To the future

After a number of years spent looking at different computer systems East Wall Credit Union decided that a group named Premier had the perfect system for our needs.

Having installed the Premier Group system we hope to be fully operational in the very near future.

During the 25 years we have lost many loyal friends – who have gone to a higher reward. We remember them with pride – for their devotion to the Credit Union and the friendship we enjoyed with them.

The greatest tribute to their memory, we believe, is to go from strength to strength, and to look forward with hope to the future.



● Helen Murray & Phyllis Muldowney leaving the pre-fab building for the last time



● Left to Right: Matthew McCabe, Richard Hynes (Chairman East Wall Credit Union), Brendan McDermott (Manager U16 Team), Willie Barry (Hon. Sec., St. Joseph's East Wall Y.C.)

Sponsorship by East Wall Credit Union

This year East Wall Credit Union decided to sponsor a set of gear for the Under 16 football team of St. Joseph's East Wall Youth Club.

The club was formed in 1988 with just two teams, one under 8 and one under 9 years. The club now caters for schoolboys from under 8 to under 16 years. St. Joseph's has been very successful since its inception under the watchful eyes of Chairman Paddy Smith, Secretary Willie Barry and Treasurer Bernard Kennedy, ably assisted by a strong ladies fund raising committee.