

Bring your home loan to the Credit Union

and get a great honeymoon rate 0.75% pa below our low standard variable interest rate for the first 12 months.

6.82%_{pa*}
interest rate

7.53%_{pa**}
comparison rate



Be one of the first 10 members to take advantage of this great rate and we'll cover your transfer costs***.

Macquarie Credit Union home loan highlights

- ✓ Great interest rates
- ✓ No loan establishment fee
- ✓ No monthly account fees
- ✓ Approvals within 24 – 48 hours
- ✓ Variable and lump sum repayments
- ✓ Free redraw facility
- ✓ Early repayment without penalty
- ✓ No loan interview required

Apply online today at macquariecu.com.au, phone (02) 6884 8650 or call into our branch and talk to one of our experienced loans staff.

* Rate for the first 12 months will be 0.75% below the credit union's standard variable home loan rate.

** Comparison rate calculated on a loan amount of \$150,000 over a term of 25 years with monthly repayments.

*** Excludes other financial institution's break costs



Hello,

Welcome to the Summer edition of MCU News.

At the credit union we have been receiving an increasing number of hoax emails and I know many of our members have also been receiving them.

What has been particularly concerning is the number of 'job offers' where you can earn thousands of dollars for doing very little. Opening these emails may activate a file that reads details from your computer.

Please remember that your credit union will never ask you for personal information via an email message. If you think you have opened one of these emails and are concerned about what might happen please contact your computer support company and the credit union.

With the bush fire season having already started this year we should all start thinking about protecting the things of value to

us. More importantly does your insurance cover provide you with adequate protection? Read more about insurance on page 3.

Congratulations to the winner of our Member Survey competition, Janelle Hampel - we hope you enjoy using your new digital camera.

Don't forget to check out the Visa Christmas campaign. You could win thousands just by using your Visa card between 6 November 2006 and 7 January 2007. See page 2.

Our Financial Planning partners, Bridges, have provided us with some advice on wealth management. This issue they have provided a guide to making the most out of your redundancy.

Thank you for all your support in 2006. I'd like to wish you and your family all the best for Christmas and New Year. You can find our holiday opening times on page 3 of this issue.

Regards,
Bob Malcolm

Visa's \$15,000 Christmas Recharge

Christmas is a time for giving, and Visa is throwing itself into the festive spirit with a \$15,000* giveaway to one lucky credit union customer. There are also eight weekly prizes of \$500* to give away.



Winning is easy: Every time you use your credit union Visa card and press the 'credit button' at the merchant terminal, between 6 November 2006 and 7 January 2007, you'll earn an entry into the draw!

And if you need more incentives to put the gift shopping on your credit union Visa, how about the fact that Visa is the easiest way to cover just about all of your expenses - travel,

restaurants, petrol, weekly groceries, movie tickets and even bills. And you can use it at the point of purchase, or over the phone or the Internet. Accepted at over 24 million merchant locations worldwide, including travel agents, department stores and restaurants, your credit union Visa card also gives you access to almost one million ATMs in 160 countries.

Don't forget - every time you use your credit union Visa card (and press the 'credit button' at the merchant terminal) between 6 November 2006 and 7 January 2007, you'll earn an entry into the draw to win a \$15,000 end-of-year recharge!

* Terms and conditions apply.



Redundancy - it's all about how you take it

Redundancy can affect anyone from the chairman to the trainee. If you believe you could be offered a redundancy package, you are facing some important decisions.

It is important to realise that these decisions are:

Complex – there are specific tax rules associated with redundancy, and without good advice you are likely to end up paying much more tax than you need to

Personal – they are based on your individual circumstances – what your friend or neighbour did with their payout may not be the best course of action for you

Far reaching – how much you keep after tax, and what you then do with it, may make a significant difference to your longer term standard of living.

These decisions also require a sound knowledge of the superannuation, taxation, social security and investment issues involved, so it makes sense to see a specialist – a professional financial planner.

A financial planner can help you with four key decisions on your redundancy package.

Decision 1 – Reducing tax on your payout

Part of your payout will be tax-free, but you can also minimise the tax you pay on the taxable component through contributing all or part of it to a super fund. This may also help you qualify for Centrelink benefits if you are unemployed for a time.

Decision 2 – Money to live on

You need to assess how much you need to live on and how much

you may need to put aside from your payout, taking into account what Centrelink entitlements you can expect.

Decision 3 – Putting your payout to work

Invest part of your payout for your future, by investing it for income or growth or by reducing your mortgage. Your investment strategy should be tailored to your personal objectives and needs.

Decision 4 – Paying less income tax

You can also invest through a super fund and pay less tax on the investment earnings. This is particularly important if you choose to return to work because your investment income will be taxed at your marginal rate. A super fund is also the gateway to a low tax retirement income, through an allocated pension, which can provide up to \$58,348 pa for a couple before they pay income tax.

So when you are asked how you want your package, don't rush your decision! Make sure your redundancy payout is used wisely for your immediate and long-term benefit.

Philip Barclay, a professional financial planner with Bridges could help guide you through the options available to you. Philip will assess your current situation, consider your future needs and can create a tailored financial plan to help you make the most of your redundancy package.

To make an appointment to see Philip contact Macquarie Credit Union on 1300 885 480.

Bridges Financial Services Pty Limited (Bridges). ASX Participant. AFSL Number 240837. This is general advice only and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation and needs. Before acting on this advice, you should consult a financial planner. In referring members to Bridges, Macquarie Credit Union does not accept responsibility for any acts, omissions or advice of Bridges and its authorised representatives.



Seated: Maree Wilson, Sally Mannix, Leanne Bourne, Vicki Thompson
 Second row: Cheriee Parker, Anne Howey, Cathy Flanagan, Lesley Dunn, Leanne Soper, Helen Yeo
 Back row: John Letfallah, Jill Graham, Brenda Wright, Matt Bow, Margaret Moon, Robert Malcolm

During the festive season
 Macquarie Credit Union will be
 closed on the following days;

Monday 25 December 2006

Tuesday 26 December 2006

Monday 1 January 2007

Board, Management and Staff would like to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Why insure?

Insurance isn't at the forefront of most peoples' minds as they go about their lives. But for those unfortunate enough to have to make a claim, insurance assumes tremendous importance.

When you buy an insurance policy, you're buying protection – for example if you suffer damage to property that is covered by the policy, that damage will be put right.

CGU Insurance research reveals 62 per cent of people surveyed have made a claim on one of their insurance policies at some time.*

It is, however, important to get your insurance cover right otherwise you may find yourself without adequate protection.

The research also reveals that:

- Nearly one in five people may have inadequate contents cover
- 60 per cent of people never inform their insurance company of a new, large purchase, while 22 per cent only sometimes inform the insurance company. This means up to 80 per cent could be under insured.
- Thirty-nine per cent of those who rent have no contents insurance
- Twenty-four per cent of car owners are not fully insured for all of their cars

Sadly, some people only discover they are under insured when they have to make a claim.

Research shows 83 per cent of those holding insurance policies have a high to moderate level of confidence in their current level of insurance being sufficient. Of them, fewer than 18 per cent of people may be fully covered for everything they own. One in five people say they never check whether their cover is adequate.

Over-insurance can also be a problem. Your insurance may replace your contents or rebuild your home, but it won't give you a larger home or more items, even if the premium you've been paying is too much. In the event of a home claim where a customer is over-insured, CGU will refund the difference in premium, however you need to make a claim for this to occur. So, it's in your interest to make sure you're paying the right amount of premium – not too much, not too little.

When looking at home contents insurance, CGU offers the following advice:

- Calculate how much it would cost to replace all your contents new today
- Review your sum insured when you make a large purchase – Don't simply look at large furniture and appliances – commonly overlooked contents include crockery and cutlery, manchester, books and CDs and clothing and footwear
- Consider additional cover for items such as jewellery.

For a free quote contact Macquarie Credit Union on 1300 885 480.

* Survey data based on around 1,000 interviews nationally, conducted by Woolcott Research in May 2005

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Credit Union News

Member Survey winner

Thank you to all those members who took part in our recent Member Survey. Your feedback is extremely important to us.

Congratulations to our survey winner, Janelle Hampel. Janelle's answer to the special question, 'How can we best improve our services to you?' won her a digital camera



Annual member dinner

Our annual dinner will be held at the Western Plains Zoo, Savannah Room on November 10. The event will be attended by over 150 members and staff and promises to be a lot of fun. Keep an eye on the website for some photos of the night.

New Computer Banking System

Over the coming months we will be updating our computer banking system. To help minimise the effects of changing to the new system which will take effect early in 2007, staff may ask for updated information over the coming months. Your help will be much appreciated and we thank you.

Interest rates

Term Deposit interest rates

\$ Amount	3 months	6 months	12 months
500 < 5,000	5.00%	5.25%	5.50%
5,000 < 25,000	5.50%	5.70%	5.90%
25,000 < 50,000	5.70%	5.80%	5.90%
50,000 < 150,000	5.80%	6.00%	6.10%
150,000 < 250,000	5.80%	6.00%	6.20%
250,000 and above	5.80%	6.10%	6.20%

Access accounts

0 < 500	Nil % pa
500 < 5,000	0.10% pa
5,000 < 10,000	0.15% pa
10,000 < 20,000	0.20% pa
20,000 < 50,000	0.30% pa
50,000 and above	1.00% pa
interest calculated daily, paid annually	

Investment accounts

0 < 500	Nil % pa
500 < 5,000	2.00% pa
5,000 < 10,000	2.75% pa
10,000 < 20,000	3.00% pa
20,000 < 50,000	3.50% pa
50,000 < 100,000	4.00% pa
100,000 and above	4.25% pa
interest calculated daily, paid annually	

Special purpose

	1.00% pa
interest calculated daily, paid annually	

Money market (e-saver)

0 < 500	Nil % pa
500 < 5,000	4.75% pa
5,000 and above	5.90% pa
interest calculated daily, paid monthly	

Christmas club

	1.00% pa
interest calculated daily, paid annually	

Loan interest rates

Loan type	Loans approved prior to 1/12/05	Current loan rates	Comparison rates
Home Loan	7.67% pa	7.57% pa	7.62% pa
Investment Property Loan	7.67% pa	7.57% pa	7.62% pa
Property Secured Personal Loan		8.20% pa	8.25% pa
Business Loan	from 9.20% pa*	from 9.20% pa*	from 9.20% pa*
Equity New Car Loan		8.45% pa^	8.45% pa**
Equity Used Car Loan		9.95% pa^	9.95% pa**
New Car Loan	8.95% pa	8.95% pa	8.95% pa**
Used Car Loan	12.25% pa	11.95% pa	11.95% pa**
Personal Loan	12.25% pa	13.20% pa	13.20% pa**
Overdraft / Visa 55	13.25% pa	13.25% pa	

Note:

Term Deposit interest Rates

All interest rates quoted are per annum

- Fees and charges and terms and conditions apply and are available on request
- Rates may be negotiable for deposits over \$100,000

Loan Interest Rates

Terms and conditions, fees and charges apply which are available on application, refer to Fees & Charges brochure. Rates current at time of printing.

* Comparison rates are based on a \$150,000 loan over 25 years with monthly repayments

** Comparison rates are based on a \$25,000 loan over 5 years with monthly repayments

^ Only applicable for the purchase of any motor vehicle with a minimum 10% deposit

Accounts

Fees & charges apply.

Terms and conditions available on request.

Contact Us

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