

## Credit Union volunteers' contributions recognised



Sean Maher and Pat Murphy receiving presentations from Honorary Secretary Marion Murphy for their respective services to the Credit Union movement.

Saint Dominic credit union recently made two presentations to two long-standing credit union activists, volunteers and Board members Patrick 'Pat' Murphy, Waterford and Dunmore East and Seán Maher of Mullinavat, County Kilkenny.

Pat has been associated with the Board and committees at Saint Dominic since 1990 and Seán Maher since 1992.

They have both seen major changes in the credit union movement in that time and in the unparalleled control that the Central Bank and the regulator now exercise on its workings.

Saint Dominic is in a very strong position financially and has not lost sight of their ethos, notwithstanding the restraints.

Pat Murphy, who is the current President and Chair of the Board of Directors at Saint Dominic, said it was a great honour to be honoured by his peers.

"The Credit Union at Saint Dominic have been served well over the years and its members have enjoyed the highest continuous rates of interest in their dividend", he noted, before appealing to young people to look at the benefits of the services in Saint Dominic, which also operates out of a modern office in Mooncoin in County Kilkenny. The Credit Union is open for loans and lending and people should look at this as a option, he added.

Seán Maher thanked Honorary Secretary Marion Murphy for making the presentation and recalled being involved with the Waterford Trades Council and getting to know the late Dick Larkin there. Dick encouraged by him to join the board in 1992, Seán said.

Seán said he felt the need for Credit Unions now is more important than at any time in its history. "Banks and money lenders are destroying and have destroyed people's lives. I would ask people to promote the co-operative ethos of the Credit Union movement.

"Seán said he was honoured and very proud to have served in a voluntary capacity for well over two decades with so many great and highly principled and committed people and thanked all concerned.

Marion Murphy described the recipients as the longest servers at Board level. They had and are still serving on different committee as well as Chapter and ILCU, she said.

“They represent the huge commitment that one now has to give to the movement so as to promote and encourages the ethos in governance and the ‘not for profit’ principles that the Credit Union book of rules and the different acts and constitution has to be upheld for the members’ benefit.”