



**Society for  
Co-operative Studies Ireland  
Membership News  
September 2022**

Dear all,

Very sorry for the long gap between the last newsletter and this one. Hopefully, the monthly regularity will be maintained from here on in. Here are some of the latest updates related to co-operative activities across Ireland and further afield that might be of interest.

If people have any items for the next newsletter please let me know.

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Although the news has been far from cheerful recently, it is important to try and focus on shoots of hope. I'll start with this BBC documentary from the 'Food Show' focused on Italy. The doc is called '**Cooperation: the solution to a food crisis?**' and focuses on a coop that's saving land, a food culture and village is at risk of being abandoned and Benevento. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001c67d>

**Since the open consultation on proposed co-operative societies legislation** took place in February there has been no updates that I can find. Although the fact that the Minister with responsibility for that process was Robert Troy, it may have been slowed down.

The **Co-operative Housing Symposium** occurred last weekend in Zurich. This was organised by the **Co-operative Housing International**:

<https://www.housinginternational.coop/events/cooperative-housing-symposium/>

The symposium was attended by members of the **Cork Student Housing Co-operative** and the recently established **Belfast Student Housing Co-operative**. This is an excellent development to note and a great example of co-operatives addressing the needs created by a huge public policy crisis across Ireland.

Over the summer, the **Swoboda Research Centre** which promotes research on Irish and British credit unions published a new report '**Credit Unions and Gambling: A Practical Guide to Support members**' <https://swobodacentre.org/credit-unions-and-gambling/>

Another report they published earlier this year is '**Credit Union Vulnerabilities in the Financial System**'. The Swoboda Centre is committed to the publication of cutting edge credit union research and co-operators from all sectors should take note and follow them.